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PROSPECTS AND OBSERVATIONS;

ON A

TOUR

IN

ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND:

NATURAL, ŒCONOMICAL, AND LITERARY.

BY THOMAS NEWTE, ESQ.

LONDON:

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1791.

TO THE

KING.

SIRE,

I Beg leave to preſent to your Majeſty a Book which aims at a general Deſcription of the Northern parts of this Iſland; but whoſe principal object is to give a proper direction to the labour of the People, to improve their natural reſources in the Land and the Sea, and to contribute to the independence, the happineſs, and the increaſe, of the moſt virtuous and uſeful part of the Community.

In former times, when the great body of the People groaned under feudal Tyranny, the oppreſſed, in both England and Scotland, found, now and then, relief and conſolation, in the wiſe and humane attention of the Sovereign. While the higher ranks were protected by their privileges and their wealth, the Sovereign became the Repreſentative and the Guardian of that helpleſs race of men: and, the views of the moſt generous and enlightened Princes, co-operating with the advancement of Knowledge, and the progreſs of Commerce, at laſt burſt the bands

bands of a domineering Ariſtocracy, and opened the doors of Liberty wider and wider to the People.

Yet, even at this day, when the light of Literature is extending far and wide; in the Northern part of the United Kingdom, Ideas, Cuſtoms, and Laws ſtill exiſt, highly unfavourable to Freedom, and all the bleſſings of general and animated Exertion. Agricultural Improvement is thereby diſcouraged, Commerce fettered, and the labouring Poor ſubject to harſh and rapacious treatment from their Superiors.

Theſe unfortunate circumſtances, I am ambitious of bringing under the review of the Father of his People.

The World will acknowledge how natural it is, to ſolicit, in favour of a Publication of this kind, the Acceptance and Patronage of the munificent Friend of all liberal and good Arts, whoſe generous cares are not confined to theſe Iſlands only, but extend to all quarters of the Globe, and all races of men.

I have the Honour to be,

Your Majeſty's

Faithful Subject and Servant,

T. NEWTE.

Tiverton, Devon,
June 1, 1791.

ADVERTISEMENT.

NOTHING but the hope of being, in ſome degree, beneficial to mankind, would have induced the Author to offer the Views and Obſervations contained in this Volume to the Public. Part of theſe were publiſhed two years ago, in a ſmall Octavo, entitled, "A Tour in England and Scotland, by an Engliſh Gentleman." As that Book was honoured with ſome ſhare of public approbation, he has been encouraged to increaſe the Work very conſiderably, by the reviſion of many Notes that he had ſuppreſſed, and the recollection of various Facts and Scenes that he had paſſed over unnoticed.

He begs leave to acknowledge his obligations to ſeveral learned and ingenious Scotchmen, who have done him the honour of communicating to him much important information.

ERRATA.

Page 148, Line 19, *for* contrivances, *read* contrivance.
—— 190, —— 24, *for* nature, *read* ſtature.
—— 227, —— 10, *for* miles, *read* feet.
—— 249, —— 11, *for* Caun, *read* Canmore.
—— 259, —— 23, *for* Caledonia, *read* Britain.
—— 365, laſt line, *between the words* "like their," *inſert* "that of."
—— 366, line 1, *dele* for.
—— 430, —— 17, *for* veſtigating, *read* inveſtigating.
—— 432, —— 8, *for* conjectures, *read* conjunctures.
—— 439, —— 22, *for* Beny Glore, *read* Benygloe.
—— 439, —— 24, *for* Benchonzie, *read* Benychonzie.
—— 440, —— 16, *for* Sir Charles Suckburgh, *read* Sir Charles Shuckburgh.
—— 440, —— 19, *for* Cotopaſci, *read* Catopaſco.

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A

TOUR

IN

ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.

THERE is not one hour in the life of man that is exactly the ſame with another, during the whole courſe of his exiſtence, from the cradle to the grave. New objects, circumſtances, and ſituations; new ideas, emotions, and paſſions, blended together, according to their different ſhades and order of ſucceſſion, and producing fancies, hopes, and fears, in endleſs variety, render human life the moſt variegated as well as the moſt fleeting ſcene with which we are at all acquainted in the whole circle of nature. As the power of language is unable to arreſt and deſcribe the mixed emotions of the mind at the moment they paſs, ſo it is far leſs fitted to recall them at pleaſure. But if we cannot clothe in language, and mark down, the various ſentiments and feelings that occupy our minds in different times and ſituations, it is in our power, in ſome meaſure,

to make up for this deficiency, by recording the objects that occaſioned them: and the diaries in which theſe are comprehended, afford, at leaſt to him who takes the trouble of making them, a very curious and intereſting ſubject of both entertainment and improvement. If the unvaried and unintereſting voids of life ſhould ſeem but little adapted to the compoſition of ſuch journals, travels and voyages not only furniſh materials for collections of this kind, but naturally induce men to make them. It was merely with a view to that ſpecies of amuſement which ariſes from the recollection of intereſting ſcenes, and the emotions which they excited at the time when they paſſed under obſervation, that the Writer of the following memorandums ever thought of committing them to paper. And it is in the importunity of friends, an apology that ought not by any means to be accounted the leſs weighty, that it is trite and common, (ſince nothing is more common than what is agreeable to truth and nature) that he takes ſhelter from any charge that may be made of vanity and ſelf-importance.

Accompanied by friends, whoſe ſocial ſympathy enlivened the impreſſions produced by the varying ſcenes through which we paſſed, I left Oxford on horſeback on the 17th of May, 1785.

Oxford and Cambridge may be juſtly conſidered not only as venerable monuments of ancient times, but as a kind of garriſons

garriſons eſtabliſhed by public authority, for the preſervation of loyalty, literature, and religion. If our univerſities may be thought, in ſome reſpects, to check and retard the progreſs of knowledge, by means of fixed forms, laws, and cuſtoms, it is at leaſt equally certain, that they are ſalutary bulwarks againſt the precipitate and deſolating ſpirit of innovation. The reverence paid by our anceſtors to piety and to learning, ſtrikes us in Oxford as by a ſenſation, and ſhews how fit objects theſe are of eſteem and veneration to the common ſenſe of mankind. For different nations, and races of princes and kings, have concurred, in the courſe of many centuries, to pay homage to the ſhrines of Saints and the ſeats of the Muſes. It is not an eaſy matter to prevent or to ſhake off a reſpect for any noble or royal family, whoſe ancient repreſentatives, the founders and benefactors of the different colleges and halls, are brought to remembrance by pictures, ſtatues, charters, and ſtately edifices. Theſe take faſt hold of the ductile mind of the ſtudents, and are aſſociated in their memory with many of the moſt pleaſing ideas that have ever occupied their minds. From impreſſions of this kind, a love of their early haunts and companions, naturally aſſociated together in the imagination, is nouriſhed in the breaſts of the generous youth, and alſo an attachment to their king and country. Take away theſe memorials of antiquity, thoſe noble and royal teſtimonies of reſpect to ſanctity of life, and proficiency in learning, remove every ſenſible object by which ſentiments

of early friendſhip, loyalty, and patriotiſm are kindled and inflamed in young minds, and diſperſe our young gentlemen in other countries for their education, or even in ſeparate little academies and ſchools in our own, and you weaken one of the great pillars, by which the conſtitution and ſpirit of England is ſupported and perpetuated.

The univerſities, therefore, and the practice which ſtill happily prevails, of educating in thoſe great and antient ſeminaries, the Britiſh youth of diſtinction, are of very great political importance: nor would all the conſequences that might accompany or flow from their ſubverſion, a matter which has of late been talked of by certain political reformers and other *agitators*, be for the better.

As to letters, although every man may have a maſter in literature and in philoſophy, who is able to retain him, in the ſame manner that he can provide himſelf with a drawing or fencing maſter, yet we are not by any means to overlook the advantages ariſing from public libraries, a concourſe of learned men for guides and companions, and alſo the uſe to be made in great univerſities of the principle of emulation.

The venerable genius of Oxford, inſpiring ſuch reflections as theſe, ſeemed to hover around us, until we arrived at Chapel-houſe, a very good inn, where we dined. Viſit Haythorp,

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the reſidence of the Earl of Shrewſbury, a very good houſe, elegantly furniſhed, and pleaſantly ſituated. The ground around it is well laid out, but not very extenſive. The avenue to the houſe, which is upward of a mile long, is formed of clumps of trees, incloſed by ſtone walls about five feet in height, which in England are called ſtone hedges, and in Scotland dykes. Theſe fences, if they do not beautify and warm any country ſo much as living hedge-rows, poſſeſs this advantage, that they may be quickly raiſed, and, by the power of money, almoſt in an inſtant. They do not harbour flocks of birds; they may be built where quickſets will not grow, and they take up but little of the ground, whereas a ditch and hedge take up a great deal. Indeed, in ſoils where ſtone walls are more eaſily raiſed than quickſet hedges, it may be readily ſuppoſed that land is of no great value. But this will, in many inſtances, be found a raſh concluſion. Every ſoil may be turned to great profit by ſkilful agriculture, provided only, that it be dry, as ſtony ground for the moſt part is, or may eaſily be made. Where the land is covered, as it is in many places, with looſe and detached ſtones, the induſtrious improver gains at once a two-fold object: he clears the ground, and collects materials for building fences. It is obſerved that land, gained from over-ſpreading ſtones, is uncommonly fertile. This fact, which is well authenticated, is highly deſerving of the inveſtigation of chymiſts. I have alſo heard it affirmed, on this ſubject, that in ſome

ſoils the land is the moſt fruitful in oats, barley, and other grain, where the expoſure is backward, that is, where it declines from the ſun.

The ſoil in the neighbourhood of Haythorp does not appear to be well calculated for producing large timber. It may, however, be excellently adapted to the production of other kinds of wood, both foreſt and fruit trees. It is common for men of large fortune to endeavour by all means, and at very great expence, to raiſe by a kind of forced culture, both exotic and domeſtic plants. And many adventurous farmers fight againſt nature, in attempting to raiſe wheat, or other valuable crops, in ſoils fitted only for oats or rye, or at beſt, for peaſe, or a light kind of barley. To know the nature of the ſoil is the firſt thing requiſite in an improver of the ground: and it is by ſtudying this above all other things, that the man of fortune will beſt diſplay his good taſte, and the farmer increaſe his ſtock, and fill his barns.

May 18th. Leave Chapel-houſe, paſs through Long Compton, a very poor village, and dine at Shipſton. The country between and about thoſe places is open, cold, and ill cultivated; the ſoil is a clay, and there are no rivers. Here, it would ſeem, there is at once great need, and great encouragement for planting, which would give genial warmth to the atmoſphere, and, in the courſe of time, con-

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vert the various influences of the heavens into a nutritive, vegetable mould, which being mixed with the clay ſoil, could not fail to open and improve it. The trees produced would be of great value, as they would not only be of uſe for building, firing, and the fabrication of various utenſils neceſſary both for the purpoſes of agriculture and domeſtic œconomy, but might alſo be launched by the Avon into the Severn, and ſo conveyed to ſundry harbours and docks for ſhip-building.

In this bleak tract, ill cultivated and thinly inhabited, it is not uncommon for the loweſt or labouring claſs of the people, who find little other employment in the depth of Winter than that of threſhing out corn, to lie a-bed the greater part of the day as well as the whole night, in order to ſave fuel, and to ſpare their ſcanty proviſions.

Sleep at Stratford upon Avon. There are ſome good houſes in this town, which is of conſiderable extent, but in general ill built, and very badly paved. The bridge here, laid acroſs the Avon, conſiſts of fourteen arches, but is very old. The town-hall is a handſome room, in which is a picture of Shakeſpeare, and another of Garrick, by Gainſborough. Shakeſpeare's monument in the church does but little credit to the artiſt.

May 19th. Leave Stratford, paſs through Henley, a long town; the houſes very indifferent. Dine at Oakely Moor-houſe, a ſmall but neat inn. The ſoil here is much better than in the ſouthern parts of Warwickſhire; the country better cultivated, and tolerably well wooded. In the evening arrived at Birmingham; but this being unfortunately the time of their fair, we could not ſee any of the manufacturers at work. Viſit Clay's manufactory for making tea-boards, buttons, and other articles paſted together and dried. Viſit alſo Boulton's manufactory for plated articles of all ſorts of ſteel and iron-work. This town is very extenſive, and a great part of it elegantly built. It contains upwards of one hundred thouſand inhabitants; but the people are all diminutive in ſize, and ſickly in their appearance, from their ſedentary employment. In Birmingham there is one very elegant and ſpacious church, three chapels, and eight meeting-houſes for Diſſenters. This town is far from being diſtinguiſhed by zeal in religion. Dr. Prieſtly's latitudinarian principles are adopted by thoſe who conſider themſelves as philoſophers; but the great maſs of the people give themſelves very little concern about religious matters, ſeldom, if ever, going to church, and ſpending the Sundays in their ordinary working apparel, in low debauchery. What religion there is in Birmingham is to be found among the Diſſenters. It is well known that there are many coiners of falſe money in Birmingham, a circumſtance that is eaſily accounted for, from the nature

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of the buſineſs in which they have been accuſtomed to be employed: it may be added, that there is a great deal of trick and low cunning among the Birmingham manufacturers in general, though there are, no doubt, ſome exceptions, as well as profligacy of manners. This may be owing in part, to their want of early education; for the moment that the children are fit for any kind of labour, inſtead of being ſent to ſchool, they are ſet to ſome ſort of work: but it is probably more owing to their being conſtantly aſſociated together both in their labouring and in their idle hours. It is remarkable, that ſociety corrupts the manners of the vulgar as much as it ſharpens their underſtanding.

About fifty years ago, there were only three principal or leading ſtreets in Birmingham, which at this day is ſo crouded, and at the ſame time ſo extenſive a town: a circumſtance which illuſtrates, in a very ſtriking manner, the rapid increaſe of our manufactures and trade in ſteel and iron. It is not above three years ſince pavements or foot-paths, formed of flag-ſtones upon the London plan, were firſt introduced in this place. The ladies of Birmingham at firſt conſidered theſe ſmooth pavements as very great grievances. They were not ſo convenient, they ſaid, as their old foot-paths, or eaſy to walk on. And this was the more remarkable, that the ſtreets, and ſide-paths, were not laid with good paving, but with round hard ſtones about

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of

of the buſineſs in which they have been accuſtomed to be employed: it may be added, that there is a great deal of trick and low cunning among the Birmingham manufacturers in general, though there are, no doubt, ſome exceptions, as well as profligacy of manners. This may be owing in part, to their want of early education; for the moment that the children are fit for any kind of labour, inſtead of being ſent to ſchool, they are ſet to ſome ſort of work: but it is probably more owing to their being conſtantly aſſociated together both in their labouring and in their idle hours. It is remarkable, that ſociety corrupts the manners of the vulgar as much as it ſharpens their underſtanding.

About fifty years ago, there were only three principal or leading ſtreets in Birmingham, which at this day is ſo crouded, and at the ſame time ſo extenſive a town: a circumſtance which illuſtrates, in a very ſtriking manner, the rapid increaſe of our manufactures and trade in ſteel and iron. It is not above three years ſince pavements or foot-paths, formed of flag-ſtones upon the London plan, were firſt introduced in this place. The ladies of Birmingham at firſt conſidered theſe ſmooth pavements as very great grievances. They were not ſo convenient, they ſaid, as their old foot-paths, or eaſy to walk on. And this was the more remarkable, that the ſtreets, and ſide-paths, were not laid with good paving, but with round hard ſtones about

the ſize of large apples, and of courſe ſuch as appeared to ſtrangers to be very troubleſome to the walker, and even painful.

The manufacturers of Birmingham who are generally accounted rich, are ſuch as poſſeſs fortunes from five to fifteen thouſand pounds. A few are in poſſeſſion of much larger capitals: but in general, they may be ſaid to be in eaſy and flouriſhing circumſtances, rather than very rich or affluent. The number of carriages kept by private perſons has been doubled within theſe ten years: ſo alſo has that of the women on the town. Theſe different ſpecies of luxury ſeem to have advanced in proportions pretty nearly equal. The people of Birmingham have often tried to eſtabliſh a coffee-houſe; but found this impoſſible, even with the advantage of a ſubſcription. They are generally addicted to ale-houſes and taverns. According to the ſize of the place, there ſhould be ſeveral coffee-houſes, taking our ſtandard in this matter, from London. But the genius of Birmingham is not that of coffee-houſes; at leaſt, the coffee-houſes of this day: though it might be ſuitable enough to that of thoſe deſcribed in the Spectators and Tatlers. The labouring and poor people of Birmingham fare but hardly; their chief ſuſtenance being bread and cheeſe, and ale, for which they pay five-pence the quart, though this meaſure is not ſo large as a quart porter-pot. There is a porter brewery at Birmingham, the liquor produced

duced by which is equal in ſtrength to that brewed in London, but far inferior in flavour.

It is not above ſeventy years ſince there was any great variety of metal goods fabricated here. Coarſe locks and hinges, with common metal buttons and buckles, formed, before that period, the whole amount of the Birmingham manufactures. But now, theſe coarſe articles are manufactured in Wolverhampton, Walſal, Dudley, and other ſmall towns near Birmingham. The fine and faſhionable goods are manufactured in the town of Birmingham itſelf. In the country round about are nailers and woodſcrew-makers, who work in their own cottages, and whoſe prices are ſo low, that they get but very little money by all their labour. The women and children, as well as the men, are employed in the manufacture of theſe articles. Sometimes the whole family will be occupied in one branch of buſineſs; which ſuits well enough, as the father of the family makes large nails, and the wife and children ſmaller ones, according to their ſtrength. This diviſion of labour in the ſame family, if ſtudied and practiſed in different kinds of Britiſh manufactures, might in this country, as in India, expedite buſineſs, and alſo improve the articles produced by it.

The induſtry of the people in thoſe parts is wonderful. They live like the people of Spain and other hot countries, riſing at three or four o'clock in the morning, going

to reſt for a few hours at noon, and afterwards working till nine or ten o'clock at night.

It is exceedingly remarkable, and highly worthy of obſervation, that induſtry in manufactures, in the diſtricts adjacent to Birmingham, is wholly confined to the barren parts of the country. This great town ſtands on the ſouth-eaſt extremity of a very barren region. On the north and weſt, but chiefly on the north-weſt, where the land is very poor, that is, on the road to Wolverhampton and Shrewſbury, the country is full of the moſt induſtrious manufacturers in the coarſe branches of buſineſs, both in detached houſes, and in villages and ſmall towns, for many miles: but on the other ſide, which is Warwick-ſhire, as you go from Birmingham towards Coventry, Stratford on Avon, and Worceſter, a circle including the points of eaſt and ſouth, and nearly that of weſt, where the ground is fertile and well cultivated, there is ſcarcely a manufacturer to be found of any kind, and in iron and ſteel none at all; though you come by degrees into the countries where ſpinning and weaving is carried on, manufactures of a leſs laborious nature than thoſe of ſteel and iron. It might be thought at firſt ſight, that the difference in queſtion might be accounted for, from the ſingle circumſtance, that it is in the very center of the barren region that the pits are found, which ſupply the manufacturers with the eſſential and encouraging article of coal. But the marked and ſudden

contraſt

contraſt between the barren and the fertile diſtricts, in reſpect of application and induſtry in manufactures, is not fully explained by this circumſtance alone; for within two miles of Birmingham, they are on the one hand all farmers, and for twelve miles on the other, they are all manufacturers.

The people of Birmingham, I ſpeak of the middling and ordinary claſs of manufacturers, retain in many things, as has been already obſerved in the inſtance of their attachment to taverns and other public houſes, the manners of other times. They are expenſive in eating and drinking, and in clothes too: but they give themſelves no trouble about the ſtile or mode in which they live. Men who employ under them great numbers of workmen, and who ſpend from two to three hundred a year, live in their kitchens; which are kept remarkably clean however, in good order, and well furniſhed. This is by no means mentioned as a matter of either contempt or reproach, but the contrary. There is a natural and indeed neceſſary connection between induſtry and oeconomy, as there is between both and the proſperity of a nation. From the introduction of luxury and the decay of manufactures, the United Provinces have begun to decline in wealth, population, and power. Indolence and pleaſure, the parents of idleneſs and corruption, have begun to ſap the foundations of a ſtate which was raiſed on induſtry, temperance, and frugality.

From

From this great manufacturing town, a communication is now opened with the Thames, the Severn, the Merſey, the Humber, and the Trent. Thus nature and art have conſpired to raiſe Birmingham to its preſent ſtate of induſtry, opulence, and national importance. It is ſituated nearly in the very center of England, and enjoys, by means of canals, more advantages than could reſult from the moſt commodious maritime ſituation. By theſe Birmingham exports to every part of the world, the produce of its own induſtry, and is ſupplied with almoſt every article that is wanted, and particularly with coals, which are dug out of pits about eight miles diſtant, and which, by this mode of conveyance, are rendered ſo cheap, as to be commonly ſold for ſix ſhillings and eight pence per ton. The canal is about thirty feet wide. The boats are ſeventy feet long and five broad, and will carry twenty-five tons, (the draught of water being about four feet and an half) which the canal will admit of when it is quite full. This boat is towed by a ſingle horſe.

May 21ſt. Leave Birmingham, and paſs through Sutton, a very neat little town, ſituated on an eminence commanding a very pleaſant proſpect; the country around highly cultivated and tolerably well wooded; and vegetation much more forward than in the more ſoutherly parts through which we had paſſed. There is not perhaps any ſpot that can be fixed on more central than this to the kingdom of England,

England, or at a greater diſtance from the ſea. Dine and ſpend the evening at Litchfield.

May 22d. Litchfield is a ſmall city, well built and pleaſantly ſituated. The cathedral, too, is ſmall but very antient, and remarkable for its three ſpires, two of which are at the weſt end, and one nearly in the center. There are no manufactures in this city: but it is the reſidence of ſome genteel families with middling independent fortunes. This was the birth-place of Dr. Samuel Johnſon, of whom ſo much has been ſaid, that it is but little that can remain for the curioſity of his greateſt admirers. I was informed, however, of two ſingularities in this great genius, which, I think, have eſcaped the reſearches of all his biographers. There is a great iron ring fixed by a ſtaple in a ſtone in the center of the market-place, which formerly ſerved as a neceſſary inſtrument in the ſavage diverſion of bull-baiting. When Johnſon happened, in his walks, (for he paid an annual viſit to Litchfield) to paſs by this ſpot, he would frequently, in the midſt of thoſe reveries in which he ſeemed to be involved, ſtep aſide, and ſtooping down, lay hold of the ring and pull it about, as if he had been trying whether he was able to extricate it from the ſtone in which it was fixed. The other remarkable particular concerning Dr. Johnſon, which has not been mentioned, is, that he made it a point in thoſe annual viſits to the place of his nativity, to call on every perſon in that city with whom he had the leaſt acquaintance;

but

but that the inſtant he knocked at the door, he would without giving time for opening it, paſs on to another, where he would do the ſame thing: ſo that it frequently happened, that two or three ſervants would be running after the Doctor, requeſting that he would return to their maſters or miſtreſſes houſes, who waited to receive him. The people of Litchfield were long, I avoid ſpeaking in the preſent time, ſtrongly tinctured with Jacobitiſm. When the Pretender, at the head of ſome Highland clans, had marched in 1745 into Lancaſhire, the inhabitants of Litchfield, it is ſaid, waited for his arrival there, in his progreſs to the capital, with impatience. The profound reverence that Johnſon entertained for monarchical principles, and hierarchical eſtabliſhments, was in perfect conformity, and perhaps originally derived from the genius that predominated in the place of his nativity.

A very ſingular club is held annually at Litchfield, of females only. It conſiſts of an hundred members and upwards; and however extraordinary this meeting may appear, yet it ſeems to have been eſtabliſhed from the beſt of motives: for I have been informed that a conſiderable ſum of money is annually collected and diſtributed among the poor of the city. About a mile from Litchfield is Barrow-cope Hill, remarkable for being the burying-place of three Saxon kings who were ſlain in battle.

May 23d. Leave Litchfield, and dine at Burton upon Trent, which we croſs about ſeven miles from that city at Wichnor-bridge, and a mile further, croſs the navigable canal which goes to Derby. Ride by the ſide of this canal, about two miles, to the place where it is carried over the river Dove, upon twelve arches. To a perſon who had never before ſeen one river carried acroſs another, this appearance naturally ſeemed extraordinary; but on examining the means, or mechaniſm on which it depended, wonder at the effect was loſt in the contemplation of the cauſe.

Burton is a pleaſant well-built town: the church a very neat one. A large cotton-mill is erected here, worked by underſhot wheels: we were not permitted to ſee the inſide of it. There is a very good bridge at Burton, of great length. The river Trent is navigable at this place for veſſels of ſmall burden. The country between Burton and Derby is highly cultivated, well inhabited, and tolerably clothed with wood, though the timber is not large. All this country is remarkably full of thorn-hedges. The town of Derby is much larger than Litchfield, is adorned with many very handſome houſes, and in general well built. It is waſhed on one ſide by the river Derwent, on which is a very large ſilk-mill, I believe, the firſt which was built in this country. It is wrought by one wheel, of twenty-four feet diameter, which gives action to one hundred thouſand movements. This mill we were permitted to examine.

Near this complicated machine is the manufactory for china; the elegance, as well as expence of which, is well known.

May 24th. Dine at Derby. Ride in the afternoon to Matlock-bath. About three miles from Derby, the face of the country changes ſuddenly, from a fine fertile vale, well wooded and inhabited, to high hills, to the north, which are clothed to their very ſummits with excellent graſs. The incloſures here are formed entirely of ſtone, with which the ſoil abounds, though it is by no means unfertile. At Crumford, about a mile from Matlock, the road is cut through a rock, juſt wide enough for a carriage to paſs. As ſoon as you get through this, the view which preſents itſelf is highly curious and romantic. Immediately below runs the river Derwent, bounded on each ſide by high and rugged rocks, in ſome places perpendicular, in others covered with wood. The ride to Matlock from this paſs, and all the dale, is equally wild and romantic. We took up our quarters at the Old Bath, which is kept by Mr. Maſon, where we found good accommodation. Our landlord behaved with much civility, and was at great pains to ſhew us the country all around: but I ſaw no ſpot, in this variegated region, which delighted me ſo much, or which appeared ſo great an object of curioſity, as the Vale of Matlock itſelf. On the hill, towards the north-weſt of the village, are many mines which produce lead, and alſo ſome

copper

copper and antimony. Some of the ſhafts, I was informed, are dug to the amazing depth of one hundred and twenty fathom, each of them being wrought, for the moſt part, by no more than two men, whoſe profits and advantages are conſiderable, when they are fortunate enough to hit on a good vein; and, being admitted as co-partners with the proprietors, they are encouraged to continue their reſearches until they find one. During the time of their ſearching the ground, for a courſe of metal, they receive only one ſhilling a day. Great advantages, however, are granted to thoſe adventurers, as they are allowed by law to try for one wherever they chuſe, on any man's eſtate, gardens only excepted. And, if they are not ſucceſsful, the only redreſs the proprietor of the land can have, is the power of compelling the miners to fill up the ſhaft again. This is a great inconveniency to the gentlemen reſiding in that part of the country. The method of making thoſe ſhafts, which are not above three feet wide, is, to put diagonal pieces of wood into the ſides. Theſe ſupport the earth where it is looſe, and at the ſame time afford ſteps to go down by, as they ſeldom make uſe of any rope or chain. This buſineſs of mining affords many advantages, and prompts to the ſtudy of natural hiſtory. The nature and the arrangement of the mineral ſtrata, in the mines of Cornwall and Devonſhire, ſuggeſted their leading ideas to Woodward in his Theory of the Earth, and to Mr. Hutchinſon, who attempted to frame a ſyſtem of natural philoſophy, agreeably to the writings of Moſes. If

academies for obſervation and experiments were eſtabliſhed in the mining countries, philoſophy might be advanced thereby with greater rapidity than has yet diſtinguiſhed her progreſſive courſe. Lord Bacon juſtly obſerves, that if the kings of Egypt had beſtowed as great pains and expence in digging holes into the bowels of the earth, as they did in raiſing thoſe ſtupendous moles called pyramids, on its ſurface, they would have rendered greater ſervice to mankind, and acquired to themſelves juſter and more laſting fame. Such pits being dug to their hands by private adventurers, it would be an honour to princes, as well as an acquiſition to the general ſtores of knowledge, to appoint men of ſcience to make obſervations on the different ſubſtances brought to light by the perſevering and penetrating induſtry of miners, in different parts of the world.

At Crumford are two very large cotton mills, the property of Sir Richard Arkwright, which he was ſo obliging as to allow us to ſee. To attempt a deſcription of a piece of mechaniſm ſo curious and complicated, would be vain. I can only ſay, that the whole proceſs of cleaning, carding, combing, twiſting and compleating the yarn for the loom, ſeems to be done almoſt without human aid. The different machines are prepared for working chiefly by children, of whom Sir Richard employs at this place about one thouſand.

27th

27th May. Leave Matlock, and go to Aſhbourn by Wirkſworth. The road is good, but the country very hilly and dreary. From Aſhbourn we proceed to viſit Dove-Dale, which is about two miles long. Through this dale runs the river Dove; and on each ſide of it are many high and barren rocks, which, to a man who has never viewed the rugged face of Nature, would appear tremendous. I cannot ſay that they had any ſuch effect on me. From this dale we went to Bakewell, a very poor ill-built town. The little river Wye runs through Bakewell, and about two miles below, glides through a beautiful meadow, where there is a very old houſe, called Haddow-Hall. Near this town is another very large cotton mill, belonging to Sir Richard Arkwright's ſon, apparently as large as that at Crumford.

Saturday 28th May. Leave Bakewell, and go to the Duke of Devonſhire's at Chatſworth. This place, from its ſituation, ſeems calculated for a reſidence of only a few months in the year. The country, about two miles round the houſe, is well wooded, and by great pains and induſtry, highly cultivated. But all the diſtant hills within view of the houſe, wear a dreary and diſmal aſpect. The garden or pleaſure ground, is confined, and laid out with very little taſte: for tho' a command of water from a ſpring on the hill behind the houſe, has enabled the architect to form a fountain and caſcade, which, in the midſt of Summer, muſt indeed have a pleaſant appearance: the ſteps over which the

water

water runs being artificial, after having ſeen it once, you ceaſe to admire it. The houſe is built of a dark yellow ſtone, and the weſt front of it is very elegant: but a quadrangle, formed in the center, makes the rooms dull and gloomy. Some of the apartments are ſpacious and lofty, but ill furniſhed, and without any hiſtorical picture that is worthy of notice. The river Derwent, which runs through the park, has a pleaſing effect, and a bridge, thrown over it, which leads to the houſe, does great credit to the architect. It conſiſts of three arches, which are truly elegant. Though this houſe and the garden be ſituated in a low vale, yet the gardener told us, that it is impoſſible to ripen fruit here, without hot walls. The chapel is very ſpacious, as well as elegant. Some of the trees round Chatſworth are nine feet in circumference; but theſe are chiefly firs, and have been long planted.

Dine at Stoney Middleton, a very poor village, and ride afterwards to Buxton, through Middleton-Dale, which very much reſembles Dove-Dale, except that it is not watered, like that valley, by any river. Having paſſed through this dale, we aſcended a very high hill, which commands a moſt extenſive though barren and ſullen proſpect: not a tree to be ſeen, and the tops of the hills bare rocks, although the ſides of theſe towards their baſes, and the ſmall vallies between, are covered with very good verdure. The incloſures in this dreary tract are very ſmall, formed of ſtones piled up

into

into walls, to clear the land, and to ſcreen the cattle. And ſuch as this is the whole country around Buxton. This place, from the efficacy of its waters, has grown into a large ſtraggling village. The houſes are chiefly, indeed I may ſay ſolely, built for the accommodation of invalids. The Duke of Devonſhire has lately built ſome elegant houſes in form of a creſcent, which has a very pretty appearance. This building has been erected at a great expence, and appears to be too magnificent for a temporary reſidence for invalids. I can ſcarcely ſuppoſe it poſſible, that any perſon would reſide at Buxton but from neceſſity; to receive benefit from the water, which, in all rheumatic caſes, is certainly very efficacious. The bath is about the 82d degree of heat, and very pleaſant to the feeling of every perſon that enters it. Near Buxton there is an hill, in the bowels of which ſeveral hundred people find daily employment.

Monday, 30th May. Leave Buxton, and go to Caſtletown, a poor ſmall town, inhabited chiefly by miners. Near to this place is the celebrated cavern called the Devil's A—ſe, the mouth of which is really tremendous, being fourteen yards in heighth and depth, and ten yards wide. After having advanced to the end of the mouth, you are conducted through a ſmall door, which leads you into the cavern. At 450 yards from the entrance you come to the firſt water, the roof of the rock gradually ſloping till it come within about two feet of the ſurface of the ſtream which

paſſes

paſſes through the cavern. This water is to be croſſed by lying down flat, in a ſmall boat, on ſome ſtraw. The boat is puſhed forward by the guide, until you get through this narrow and low place, which is about four yards long. After landing on the other ſide, you come to a cavern ſeventy yards wide, and forty yards high, in the top of which are ſeveral large openings; though the candles were not ſufficient to enable us to ſee their full extent. Having croſſed the water a ſecond time, on the guide's back, you come to a cavern called Roger Rain's houſe, becauſe from its roof there is a continual dropping of water. At this place you are entertained by a company of ſingers, who have taken another path, and aſcended to a place called the Chancel, about thirty feet higher than the place on which you ſtand; where, with lights in their hands, they ſing various ſongs. The effect of the whole is very ſtriking. The water is, in all, croſſed ſeven times; but you can ſtep over it, except at the two firſt places. At one place, the ſtream is loſt in a quick-ſand, but emerges again at a great diſtance, without the cavern. The whole extent of this extraordinary ſubterraneous place, as meaſured by Sir Joſeph Banks, is 617 yards, and at the furtheſt end, is upwards of 200 yards from the ſurface of the earth. At this ſpot the rock comes down, and cloſes with the water, ſo as to preclude all farther paſſage: but, as there was reaſon to believe, from a ſound that was conſtantly heard, that there was a cavern beyond this boundary, a gentleman, about four years ago,

was

was determined to try if he could not dive under the rock, and riſe in the cavern, on the other ſide. With this deſperate reſolution he plunged in with his feet foremoſt; but, as was expected, ſtruck his head againſt a rock. In this ſtate he remained a conſiderable time, till at laſt he was dragged out by the hair of the head. About the middle of the old cavern, the man who ſhews this place, has found out another paſſage, in a different direction, which he calls the New Cavern. Into this we went, with difficulty, about an hundred yards; but the ſtones were ſo looſe under our feet, and the roof of the cavern, in ſeveral places, ſo low, that we did not chuſe to take the trouble of going farther, though the guide ſays, that its extent is near 200 yards. This man is ſo eager in purſuit of new wonders in this cave, that I ſhould not be the leaſt ſurpriſed to hear of his being buried or drowned in it; for in Winter, the whole of this ſubterraneous place is ſometimes full of water, as clearly appears from a great quantity of mud and ſand which ſtick to the rocks on all ſides. It is indeed the paſſage of the water that has evidently been the cauſe of this natural curioſity. This has waſhed away, in the courſe of time, the mud and ſand which filled the cavities of the rocks, and thus ſcooped thoſe vacant ſpaces which form the caverns.

If this tremendous cave were properly lighted up, and muſic placed in different parts, with the witches in Macbeth and their cauldron, and other infernal agents and machines,

ſuch as are introduced on the ſtage, a more wonderful effect might thereby be produced, than has ever reſulted from any mimic or natural ſcene.

Above the mouth of this cavern is the ruin of a very old caſtle.

On the ſouth ſide of Caſtletown ſtands Man-torr, a very high hill, one ſide of which appears to be mouldering faſt away. On the top of this hill are the remains of a Roman encampment, and near its baſe is a coal mine. The coals are conveyed in boats, under ground, near a mile, to the bottom of an hill, and then put into carts. Each of thoſe boats carries about a ton. From Caſtletown proceed to Chapel-in-Frith, a ſmall neat town: ſleep at the George Inn, where there is moſt excellent accommodation.

Tueſday, 31ſt May. Leave Chapel-in-Frith, and ride through Whaley and Stockport, to Mancheſter. After aſcending the hill above Whaley, the face of the country aſſumes a new and moſt pleaſing aſpect, being changed from rugged rocks and lofty mountains, to fertile vales and beautiful woods. The whole country, for a great many miles round Mancheſter, is exceedingly well cultivated and fertile. This town is old, and of large extent; and in the ſkirts of it, you are ſtruck with the appearance of many elegant houſes. But, on the whole, it is not ſo large, or ſo

well

well built as Birmingham. The road from Stockport to Mancheſter, a ſtretch of nine miles, is paved.

Wedneſday, 1ſt June----Mancheſter. Notwithſtanding what I have ſaid of the town of Mancheſter, the induſtry in the manufactures carried on here and in the neighbourhood, cannot fail to excite the moſt agreeable emotions in the minds of all Britons. And, if it be inferior to Birmingham in reſpect of extent, and of building, it is ſuperior to it in point of police or internal regulation, and alſo in the ſtile or mode of living. The population of this great town is not leſs than 75,000. There are not ſo many people of middling fortunes as in Birmingham, but there are more perſons who have great fortunes: a circumſtance which is to be accounted for, from the nature of the Mancheſter manufactures, which cannot be ſo well carried on as thoſe of Birmingham, by tradeſmen of ſmall capitals. The manufacturers of Mancheſter live like men of fortune, which indeed they are.

The greateſt part of the people are engaged in ſome uſeful art, but principally in finiſhing the goods that are manufactured in the neighbourhood. The mills, which I have before mentioned, prepare the cotton for the weavers, and Mancheſter completes the work. From hence the goods are carried to every part of the world; the conveyance of theſe being greatly facilitated by the communication which the canals afford with the ſea, on either ſide of the iſland.

Mancheſter is the beſt regulated town in England, though, like Birmingham, it is not governed by magiſtrates of its own, or a town-council, but by the gentlemen of the town, who are at great pains to eſtabliſh order and good manners among the lower people, by good regulations. The people, again, being moſtly weavers, and conſequently, orderly and domeſtic, are very tractable, and ſuſceptible of good government. The work-houſe here pays better, I believe, than any in England. The poor inhabitants earn, on an average, four pence a day, though in many others they ſcarcely gain a farthing.

The ſtreets are paraded every Sunday, during the time of divine ſervice, by conſtables, who take all ſtraggling perſons into cuſtody. Diſorderly houſes are ſearched once in every eight or ten days, about nine or ten o'clock in the evening, care being taken not to let it be known when the ſearch is to be made. And, as all this is done not by trading juſtices, and other fellows in office, but by gentlemen, it anſwers the purpoſe of preſerving order, without buſtle, expence, or oppreſſion.

The ſpirit of enterprize is extended, in Mancheſter, from manufactures and commerce to mechanical invention, and from thence to philoſophy in general. They have, in this exemplary community, a philoſophical ſociety, who purſue literature and ſcience with all the ardour that is natural to

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new eſtabliſhments; and alſo a muſic room, and regular concerts, ornaments of which no other manufacturing town in England can boaſt. When the manufacturers of this kingdom were in danger of ſuffering by the Iriſh propoſitions, the town of Mancheſter took the lead in oppoſing them, and contributed twice as much as all the kingdom beſides, to the ſupport of the manufacturers who eſpouſed their cauſe. It is remarkable, that in this elegant and well regulated town, the inns are the moſt inconvenient, incommodious, and in all reſpects the worſt that can be well imagined. The hotel is indeed better, though not by any means very good: nor will it at all ſerve the purpoſe of travellers who ſtop on their journey only for a ſhort time. The women of Mancheſter, and indeed of all Lancaſhire, are eſteemed handſome, and in this reſpect, the title of witches may be beſtowed on them without great impropriety.

Thurſday, the 2d of June. Go to Worſley in the Duke of Bridgewater's paſſage-boat, by his canal, which has been of ſo great ſervice to Mancheſter, and all the adjacent country: the diſtance ten miles. At Worſley is the mouth of the funnel which leads to the Duke's coal mines. This funnel, which is five feet high, and ſix feet broad, goes two miles under ground. At one thouſand yards from the entrance, a ſhaft is dug to clear the mine from foul air. Several of thoſe ſhafts are dug at various diſtances, for the

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ſame purpoſe. This mode of giving vent to the foul air, has been found neceſſary, as many fatal accidents have happened from the damp air, and ſometimes exploſions which have deſtroyed many of the people who wrought in thoſe mines. I could have wiſhed to enter this ſubterraneous paſſage myſelf, but was told that there were no people at work, and that the air was ſo foul, that it would be too dangerous. The boats which go through this ſubterraneous navigation, are of two ſizes: the ſmalleſt, two and an half feet wide, and twenty feet long; the largeſt, five feet broad, and fifty feet long, carrying about twenty-five tons of coal. The miners receive from twenty pence to three ſhillings a day, according to the quantity of coals they dig, and they work only eight hours. I am told that 250 tons of coals are brought out in a day; and that above 300 men are conſtantly employed in this buſineſs. After the coals come through this ſubterraneous paſſage, they are carried to Manchester and other towns, in the ſame boats. Sometimes they are put into larger ones, and conveyed to all parts of the country; to Warrington, to Runcorn, and, by the Merſey, to Liverpool.

Return to Manchester by the canal, in the ſame boat, which carries at leaſt ſixty paſſengers, and is perfectly commodious and convenient, having two cabbins in it, for the accommodation of different claſſes of people; and it is ſo well regulated by the Duke, that no improper company can

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go in it, as he has given orders to the boat-maſter to return them their money, and to ſet them on ſhore, provided any of the paſſengers are guilty of improper conduct.

Friday, the 3d of June. Leave Mancheſter, and go by the Duke of Bridgewater's canal, twenty-five miles, to Warrington. This canal is very wide, and capable of conveying boats of five feet draught of water. Theſe boats are about ſixty feet long, and ten feet broad. Sleep at Warrington, a large and well built town. The principal manufacture carried on here is that of canvaſs. The original maker of croſs-bows firſt reſided in this town, and the ſame buſineſs is ſtill carried on by ſome of his family.

Saturday, the 4th of June. Leave Warrington, and go to Liverpool, through Preſcott, a neat little town, commanding a beautiful view of a very rich and well cultivated country. This proſpect is bounded on the ſouth-weſt by the Welch mountains, which appear very high and rugged. Liverpool is a town well known for its maritime enterprize and extenſive commerce. The old part of the town is ill built, and the ſtreets rather narrow. Great additions have been lately made to it, and many elegant houſes are erected in its neighbourhood. Here are fourteen building yards, and three of the moſt commodious and complete baſons for receiving ſhips I ever ſaw. Theſe baſons are capable of holding near 400 veſſels, from 500 tons downwards; and can, if neceſſary,

neceſſary, receive any ſhip, as there is twenty feet water at the dock gates. Here are alſo two dry baſons at low water, by which the ſhips enter from the river, and go into the inner baſons, where they are conſtantly kept afloat, and can be completely laden, and go to ſea without anchoring in the river. The inner baſons are ſurrounded with excellent ware-houſes, and ſpacious keys for landing the goods. Theſe advantages make Liverpool the moſt complete commercial ſea-port in Great Britain. All the works juſt mentioned have been completed by the Corporation, who are very rich; and, I make no doubt, conſidering its extenſive commerce, but they have an ample intereſt for the money they have ſo laudably expended.

The clay of which all the Staffordſhire ware is made, is brought to this port from Teignmouth in Devonſhire. It appears rather extraordinary, and to imply a want of induſtry in the people of the County of Devon, to ſuffer ſo valuable an article to be exported and carried half round the iſland, to be manufactured: but, on enquiry, I find, that the cheapneſs of fuel enables the people of Staffordſhire to defray the expence of freight, and to carry on the buſineſs at a ſmaller expence, than it could be done on the ſpot where the clay is dug.

The Duke of Bridgewater has a dock and ware-houſe here, where the veſſels which come through his canal are repaired.

repaired. In Liverpool there are five churches, and about 70,000 inhabitants. At the weſt end of the town a fort is erected, which appears to be of no uſe: for the entrance into the river is ſo intricate, that it is almoſt impoſſible for the enemy to annoy the town. On the eaſt ſide of Liverpool is a terrace, commanding a delightful view of the town, the river, and all the neighbouring country. This place is called the Mount, where there is a very good inn.

Monday, the 6th of June. Leave Liverpool, and go to Ormſkirk, by the Wigan canal, a diſtance about twenty-five miles. Several boats are kept on this canal for the convenience of paſſengers, but they are by no means ſo well regulated as the boats on the Duke's canal; for we were witneſſes of much diſorder, and very improper conduct, which muſt make thoſe vehicles very unpleaſant to females. This canal muſt have been made at much leſs expence than the Duke's, as the country through which it paſſes is very level, and not interſected by any conſiderable rivers. The bridges are made of wood, and turn on a center, by means of a circular iron, and iron wheels. Theſe bridges are conſtantly out of repair, and are attended with conſiderable expence. The Wigan canal was intended to have been carried to Leeds; and accordingly, the country was ſurveyed, and the level traced for this purpoſe. But an hill, near Whatley, I am told, is an inſurmountable obſtacle to the accompliſhment of this project. This canal, I have been informed,

does not, at preſent, return upwards of two per cent. to the proprietors. The chief article that is carried on it is coals.

From Ormſkirk go in a poſt-chaiſe to Preſton: the country between which places is low and ſandy. This tract affords not any ſtriking proſpect; but it is well cultivated, and appears to be good grazing ground. Preſton is a very old town, ſituated on an eminence, commanding a pleaſing proſpect all around it, but more particularly from that point from whence you view the ſeat of Sir Harry Houghton, on the banks of the river Ribble, which winds prettily round the eminence on which it is ſituated: and the diſtant hills in the weſt craven of Yorkſhire bound the view.

Tueſday, the 7th of June. Leave Preſton, and go on to Garſtang. The road between theſe places is exceedingly good; the country well cultivated; much paſture land, but little corn, and no timber, all the trees being cut off by the weſterly winds. Dine at Lancaſter, an old and ill built town, and the ſtreets very narrow. The caſtle, which is ſituated on an eminence that commands the town, was built by Agricola; and, though it bears all the marks of antiquity, yet ſeems to be in a perfect ſtate. This is now the county jail, which we viſited, and were happy to find the priſoners well lodged, and kept clean. Lancaſter has been a place of conſiderable trade, but ſeems now on the decline. The

view

view from the caſtle is very extenſive, but by no means pleaſant.

Wedneſday, the 8th of June. Sleep at Hornby. About three miles from Lancaſter, enter the vale of Lonſdale, which is very beautiful. On the right is a barren ridge of mountains: in the middle runs the river Loon, which is navigable to Hornby, through rich and fertile meadows; and on the left the hills are covered with hanging wood; the whole forming a moſt delightful and charming view. The village of Hornby is ſmall, and the houſes are very indifferent. Near the town is a very old caſtle, belonging to Mr. Charteres, from whence there is a moſt beautiful proſpect of three rivers, the vale, and diſtant barren mountains. The caſtle is now uninhabited, and falling to ruin. Leave Hornby, and ride by the ſide of the river Loon, to Kirby-Lonſdale, the moſt pictureſque, perhaps, and delightful ride in Britain. Kirby-Lonſdale is a neat, well built little town, ſituated on an eminence; and the river Loon runs cloſe beneath it, through a rich and well cultivated vale. The adjacent and lower hills are finely covered with wood; and behind theſe, high and craggy mountains are preſented to our view, deſtitute of trees, and of every kind of vegetation or verdure. The contraſt between the bold and barren rocks, on the one hand, and the verdant woods and luxuriant vale, on the other, heightens the rude majeſty of the former, improves the ſwelling ſoftneſs, and the richneſs of

the latter, and on the whole, forms the moſt delightful view I ever beheld.

Thurſday, June 9th. From Kirby-Lonſdale proceed to Kendal, ſituated on the river Ken, a town of conſiderable extent and of great antiquity. A great number of people are employed here in the manufactures of cotton and woollen cloths, a great part of which is carried to Liverpool, from whence it is exported to the Weſt Indies and to Guinea. This town abounds with tanners.

To the north-eaſt of Kendal, on an high eminence, which, in the ſouthern and eaſtern parts of England, would be called an hill, are the ruins of a very old caſtle, with a deep ditch around it, of a circular form, and very ſpacious within; its diameter being near 150 yards. Three bridges are built over the river. The low land in the neighbourhood of Kendal is fertile, but it is ſurrounded by barren mountains and craggy rocks.

Leave Kendal, and paſs through a country, than which one more barren, hilly, and dreary, cannot be imagined. Ride to Bowneſs. About a mile from this place we diſmount from our horſes, and aſcend an hill covered with rude and craggy rocks, which commands a view that exceeds all deſcription. From this point is ſeen the greater part of the Windermere Lake, and ten iſlands. On the largeſt of

theſe there is an houſe, built in a circular form, at preſent belonging to a Mr. Chriſtian. This iſland is not only beautiful in itſelf, from a variety of grounds, and clumps of trees, but it is ſo happily ſituated as to command a view of many of the enchanting objects on this lake. The other iſlands are much ſmaller than this, but have a charming effect from being richly adorned with wood. The margin of this lake is ſurrounded with rich meadows, fertile hills, and beautiful woods, with perpendicular precipices, and old yews and hollies growing out of the fiſſures of the craggy rocks; all of them ſo curiouſly mixed and interſperſed, and reflecting their images ſo accurately and ſo clearly in the tranſparent expanſe below, that it would be difficult to conceive how Nature herſelf could form a more captivating ſcene. From different points of view, thoſe natural beauties ſhew themſelves in different ſhapes. Some of the ableſt pens have been employed, and the imagination of the poet has been racked, to give a deſcription of this beautiful diſplay of Nature; but language is unable to convey the emotions that this ſcene excites, even with the aid of the moſt faithful pencil. Therefore, whoever wiſhes to have a juſt conception of Windermere Lake, and its ſurrounding beauties, muſt view them on the ſpot.

Friday, June 10th. Croſs the ferry from Bowneſs, and walk to Hawks-head, about four miles diſtant. This village is ſituated at the upper end of Eſtwait-Water, which is about

two

two miles in length, and half a mile broad, ſurrounded with fine woods and fertile meadows. At the upper end of this piece of water is a good houſe, called Belmount, commanding a view of the whole. In the afternoon we went to the head of Coniſton Lake, but a thick fog coming on ſuddenly, we were deprived of the pleaſure of ſeeing it, and obliged to return to Bowneſs by Ambleſide and Low-wood Inn. The ſame fog which prevented us from ſeeing Coniſton Lake, hindered us alſo from ſeeing the adjacent country.

Saturday, June 11th. Leave Bowneſs, and ride to the ſouth end of Windermere. The road is exceedingly good, and carried within a quarter of a mile of the lake, from one end to the other, ſometimes through delightful woods, where, for a ſhort time, the water and ſurrounding hills are hid from your view; but the water and oppoſite ſhore now and then appearing, as you advance, through the trees. Sometimes you ride over fertile and beautiful vales, and frequently under high mountains, whoſe cliffs hang over the road. There is not any part of this ride, which is continued for fourteen miles, that is not highly pictureſque, and fitted to afford the moſt ſoothing ideas and exquiſite gratification.

Return by Bowneſs, and go to Low-wood Inn to dinner. This inn is ſituated about two miles from the north end of the lake, cloſe upon its banks, and commands a proſpect of all

all the upper part of the lake, and as far down as Windermere Iſland, with ſeveral of the ſmaller iſlands around it. But from this point they are ſhut in with the ſurrounding head-lands, and loſe their inſular appearance, by which the beauty of the proſpect is conſiderably diminiſhed.

Sunday, June 12th. Having met with a diſappointment in our attempt to ſee Coniſton Lake on Friday, and being determined to have a view of all the beauties which this extraordinary country affords, we rode to Coniſton in the morning, which is at a diſtance, from Low-wood Inn, of nine miles. The road is not very good, but the ſurrounding ſcenery was ſo intereſting, that we had but little time to look down. After riding about ſeven miles, we got to the top of of an hill, from whence Coniſton Lake is to be ſeen in its full extent. It is a beautiful ſheet of water, ſurrounded by rich meadows. The lower parts of the adjacent mountains are well covered with wood. There is, however, by no means ſuch variety in the ſcenery here as in Windermere. The hills aſſume a more regular appearance in their ſummits, and reach, in general, to the water's edge in a more gentle deſcent. The want of iſlands, too, is a great deficiency. Coniſton Lake ſhould be ſeen before Windermere. It certainly has great beauties, though by a compariſon with Windermere, they are conſiderably leſſened. The north end of Coniſton Lake is very bold and ſtriking: and here we admire the ſituation of Coniſton-Hall, on an eminence,

eminence, and ſurrounded with fine hanging woods, with rich paſture land below, reaching to the edge of the lake. Behind and above the hall, ſeveral mountains riſe with tremendous majeſty, craggy, bleak, and barren; from the boſom of one of which a cataract iſſues, which, in wet weather, muſt add conſiderably to the grandeur of the ſcene.

Return to Low-wood to dinner, and in the evening walk to the upper end of Windermere. About two miles up in this romantic vale, is a houſe belonging to Sir Michael Le Fleming, called Rydal-Hall. In this vale runs the river Rothay, winding through beautiful woods and verdant meadows, till it falls into the lake. On each ſide of the river are ſtupendous, black, and barren rocks. Cloſe by Rydal houſe is a water-fall, where Sir Michael Le Fleming has built a ſmall houſe, in a moſt ſequeſtered and convenient ſpot for enjoying it. The fall is indeed nothing extraordinary, as it does not exceed twelve feet: but the noiſe of the water, and the dark ſhade of the trees around, form a gloomy ſcene, which fills the mind with a pleaſing melancholy.

Monday, June 13th. Leave Low-wood Inn, and ride through Ambleſide to Keſwick, a ſmall village, at the head of Windermere Water. Paſs by Sir Michael Le Fleming's ſeat; and, at the diſtance of a quarter of a mile, enjoy a charming view of Rydal-Water, in which are ſeveral beautiful iſlands. A little further on is Rydal-Paſs, from which

you

you look down upon a ſmall lake, called Graſsmere, in a moſt fertile vale, ſurrounded by mountains. A few miles from hence is Thirlmere, or Thirl-Water, a delightful lake, extending through a vale about four miles long. Near the middle of this lake, a promontory extends from each ſide, and confines the water to the ſize of a ſmall river, over which is a ruſtic bridge. Aſcend an high hill, from whence there is a moſt tremendous view of a deep and diſmal glen, through which we paſſed, and aſcended another mountain, where the eye is delighted with the enchanting view of Keſwick-Vale, the noble lake of Derwent-Water, and part of Baſſenthwaite. This vale in circumference includes about twenty miles, and the land is exceedingly fertile.

Dine at Keſwick, a neat little town, ſituated at the north end of the lake. The afternoon was ſpent in rowing about upon this beautiful ſheet of water, which is three miles long, and one and an half wide. Four iſlands, called Pocklington's, Lord's, St. Herbert's, and Rapſholm, add greatly to the beauty of this water. Some are covered with verdant turf; others are planted with various trees. On Pocklington's Iſland is an elegant modern-built houſe, the ground about which is laid out with much taſte. After having viewed the magnificent proſpects around this lake, from different ſtations, the rugged and perpendicular rocks of Barrowdale, and the verdant boſom of Skiddaw, return to our inn at Keſwick, and

On Tueſday the 14th, ride to the top of Skiddaw, which I believe is computed to be about 1,000 or 1,100 yards perpendicular from Derwent-Water. This mountain is by no means difficult of acceſs, and is covered with graſs, which gradually grows coarſer as you aſcend, till you come within a quarter of a mile of its ſummit, where it is very ſteep, and where the atmoſphere is ſo rarified, as to prevent vegetation. The whole top of the mountain is covered with a looſe brown flaty ſtone, upon which it is difficult to walk. On reaching the ſummit, we were deprived of having the view we expected, of the ſurrounding country, which in clear weather muſt be very extenſive; but unfortunately at this time, all the diſtant objects were obſcured by a thick haze. Return to Keſwick.

Wedneſday, the 15th. Go in a boat to the upper or ſouth part of the lake, and viſit the romantic regions of Barrowdale, where there is ſuch a mixture of tremendous and beautiful ſcenery, as perhaps no other ſpot on earth can exhibit. To deſcribe the component parts which form the wonderful whole, would require the genius of Thomſon or Salvator Roſa.

In this vale is a remarkable mine, where an abundance of mineral earth, or hard ſhining ſtone, is found, which we call black lead, and which is ſold for ten ſhillings per pound. This is ſaid to be the only mine of the ſame kind in Europe.

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It is opened once in five or ſeven years, and a ſufficient quantity of ore taken out to anſwer all the purpoſes to which it is applied for that period of time.

Through the vale winds the River Derwent, which forms the lake, and afterwards paſſes into Baſſenthwaite-Water. After having ſpent the morning in this delightful vale, return to an houſe called Low-dore Inn, which is ſituated cloſe by a celebrated fall of water, called by the ſame name. The cataract falls from a vaſt height, through a large chaſm, from one craggy precipice to another, until it is loſt in the lake. After heavy falls of rain, this natural exhibition muſt be tremendous. Return in the evening, with reluctance, to Keſwick.

After viewing this elyſium, which affords the higheſt gratification to every traveller, we could not avoid indulging one melancholy reflection: that the deſcendants of the antient proprietors ſhould ſtill be deprived of their birth-right. The liberality of the Britiſh parliament has been nobly exerciſed, in returning the forfeited eſtates in Scotland. It is to be hoped, that the ſame benevolence will be extended to the family of Radcliff.

Thurſday, June 16th. We ride to Ulls-Water, at the diſtance of fifteen miles, a great part of the way over a dreary moor, and the country round very barren. In this moor we

were caught by a violent hail ſtorm. Being entirely expoſed, we were obliged to turn our horſes backs to the ſtorm, and to ſtand ſtill till it paſſed over; for the hail-ſtones were ſo large, that it was impoſſible to face it. Dine at Pulobridge, a very bad inn, where we could not get any beds. Go on five miles, and ſleep at Penrith.

On Friday 17th, return to Ulls-Water. Ride on the ſide of the lake, five miles, to Lyulph's Tower, an houſe lately built by Lord Surrey, now Duke of Norfolk, in form of a caſtle, for the accommodation of his friends, and thoſe who go to ſee the lake. The conſtruction of this houſe is very whimſical. It has two circular turrets. In the center, which is flat, is an enormous window, which ſerves to light ſeveral rooms within the turrets, which are large enough for bed-rooms. The outſide of the building is quite in the ſtile of an old caſtle, and viewed from the water, has a very pretty effect. Leave our horſes at Lyulph's Tower, and go to the upper end of the lake in a boat. Return to the tower to dinner, which was a very decent one, and recommended by a very kind reception. After dinner, walk about a mile from the tower, up a dale, where there is a caſcade. This fall is much ſuperior to any that I have ſeen in this country, being fifty feet, and having a greater body of water in it.

Ulls-Water is ſixty fathom deep, and in many places very ſteep. It is about ten miles long, and nearly three miles broad,

G. Barret R.A. Pinxit. Heath Sculp.

Ulls Water; A Lake in Cumberland.

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broad, and has more the appearance of a lake than any of the others, as you can look over, at one view, a greater expanſe of water. Like the others, it is ſurrounded by high mountains and perpendicular rocks; and, in many places, are yews, holly, and birch, apparently growing out of the ſolid maſs of ſtone: ſome young, and in a flouriſhing condition; others worn out with age. On the banks of the lake there is a great deal of paſture, and ſome arable land. There are ſeveral good houſes here, ſituated ſo as to command moſt beautiful views. The land alſo round the lake is well wooded. But in general, Ulls-Water is by no means ſo well adorned with wood as the other lakes, particularly Windermere. At the upper end, however, there is a remarkably fine wood, reaching from the water's edge nearly to the ſummit of the mountain, which is, at leaſt, one thouſand feet high. This wood conſiſts of holly, birch, yew, and oak; and though none of the trees are large, it nevertheleſs makes a beautiful appearance. At this end of the lake there are three little iſlands, or rather rocks, covered only with a few ſhrubs; and at the fartheſt extremity is a little village, called Patterdale, ſurrounded by fine wood and rich meadows. A river runs through this village, which falls into the lake. In an old ruinous houſe there lives a miſer, who calls himſelf the King of Patterdale.

In the evening we return by water, to the ſouth end of the lake, which is adorned by a beautiful hill, belonging to

Mr.

Mr. Haſſel, called Dunmallet. This hill is covered with a variety of trees, and the different ſhades of green have a pleaſing effect. Sleep at Penrith. Between this place and Ulls-Water, the country is well cultivated, and enriched by ſeveral gentlemen's ſeats, with large plantations about them; among which are the antient ſeats of the Earl of Surrey and Lord Lonſdale: the former called Grey-Stock Park; the latter, Lowther-Hall.

Saturday, 18th June. Penrith is a neat well built little town. On an eminence are the remains of an old caſtle. The church is a very handſome and ſpacious building. In the church-yard there are two very remarkable ſtones, about eight feet deep, and fifteen feet aſunder, with three very curious ones between, put edgeways, and joined at the top. This, I ſuppoſe, has been the burying place of ſome antient warrior; but the antiquarians have not been able to decypher the inſcription, or to trace the antiquity on the monument. On an high hill, to the north of the town, ſtands a watch-tower, or beacon, built entirely of ſtone, which commands a very diſtant view of all the country round, and was formerly intended to give the alarm of the approach of an enemy. To the north-eaſt is a range of very high mountains, called Croſs Fells, or the Britiſh Alps, on which the ſnow, in large quantities, is very viſible. In ſome places, I am told, it remains all the year round. Dine at Penrith, and ride to Carliſle in the evening. The

country

country between theſe two towns is very capable of cultivation, and actually undergoing rapid improvement. In this tract of country, there is much corn land; and, about Carliſle, there is a great extent of rich grazing land, on both ſides of the river Eden, which runs by the town.

Sunday, 19th June. Carliſle is a city of conſiderable extent, ſurrounded by a wall thirty feet high, which is going faſt to decay. At the north end of the town ſtands the caſtle, the rudeſt heap of ſtones that were ever piled together by the induſtry of man. There are four old invalids who take care of the ammunition kept in it, of which there is a conſiderable quantity, and 500 ſtand of arms. On the walls are mounted thirty guns, from ſix to twenty-four pounders, and among theſe the guns with which the town was reduced in the year 1745, by the Duke of Cumberland. The ditch around the caſtle is a filthy ſtagnated pool. Between the old citadel or caſtle, and the walls and mote by which it is ſeparated from the town, is a declining bank, on which there is a row of trees, planted by the hands of the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots, when a priſoner in Carliſle. There are many very good houſes in this town, though, in general, it is very ill built, and exceſſively dirty, from the circumſtances of its being ſurrounded by a wall, and having only a few outlets. Over the river, which is pretty large, are thrown two very elegant bridges. The cathedral is an handſome building, in the Gothic ſtyle; the

ſtone

ſtone of a brick-duſt red, like the cathedral of Litchfield. Near this edifice there is a very modern church, which looks on the outſide more like a ball-room than a place of worſhip.

Dine at Carliſle, and in the afternoon, croſſing the ſands at the upper end of Solway Firth, enter Scotland, and paſs on to Annan, which is diſtant from Carliſle eighteen miles.

The land between the Solway Sands and Annan is very poor, being chiefly a black gravel, and bog, producing nothing but heath. The country here is for many miles low and flat, but the road exceedingly good. The town of Annan is ſmall, but very neat. It is ſituated on an eminence above the river of that name, which winds prettily through the meadows below the town. Theſe, near the banks of the river, produce good graſs. Immediately on croſſing the Solway Firth, we found the children, and even many of the men and women, without either ſhoes or ſtockings. The cottages are miſerable huts, made of mud, intermixed ſometimes with round ſtones, ſuch as are found in the beds of rivers, and as you meet with in tracts that have, in the lapſe of time, ſuffered the influence and agency of water, and covered with turf. Sleep at Annan, where there are two very good inns, particularly the Queenſberry Arms; and after dinner,

On Monday, the 20th June, ride in the afternoon, eighteen miles to Dumfries. On the road from Annan to this place, as from the Solway Sands to Annan, the cottages are built of mud, and covered with turf or thatch, the pooreſt habitations that can be imagined, and extremely dirty. The inhabitants are turned yellow with the ſmoke of the turf, which is their only fuel. A ſimilar effect, I have been informed, is produced, by the ſame cauſe, on the inhabitants of North Holland. The connection between climate, ſoil, food, vegetable effluvia, and other phyſical cauſes, and the complexions or colours of man, and other animals, is for the moſt part as myſterious as it is various; but here it is abundantly manifeſt. Till you come within two miles of Dumfries, the land is ſo exceedingly bad, that it muſt baffle every effort towards cultivation. It ſeems to produce nothing but peat, which is cut here, in large quantities, and ſupplies all the country round. Dumfries is a pretty large town, and very clean. It is ſituated in a low vale. The lands about it are tolerably well cultivated. About three miles from it there is a ſmall houſe of the Duke of Queenſberry's, with ſome large plantations of fir, which appear to thrive extremely well.

Tueſday, 21ſt June. Leave Dumfries in the morning; paſs Lord Hopetoun's houſe, around which we find ſome tolerable woods; but the adjacent country is very barren. The farm houſes are in general miſerable huts, the people

very poor, and the lower claſs of females exceedingly dirty. The old women, frightful enough of themſelves, are rendered ſtill more ſo by their dreſs, the outer garment being a long dirty cloak, reaching down to the ground, and the hood drawn over their heads, and moſt of them without ſhoes and ſtockings. Others among them wear what they call *huggers*, and in the Northern parts of Scotland *hugger-muggans*, that is, ſtockings with the feet either worn away by long and hard fervice, or cut from them on purpoſe: ſo that the leg is covered by theſe uncouth teguments, while the foot, that bears the burden, and is expoſed to brakes and ſtones, is left abſolutely bare.

It is no wonder, therefore, that the following ceremony which, in remote periods was, probably, univerſal, ſhould ſtill be practiſed, on the eve of a marriage, by the common people of Scotland. The friends and relations of the bride and bridegroom aſſemble at their reſpective houſes, where there is great mirth and jollity, for the purpoſe of waſhing their feet. A ſimilar ceremony is practiſed on ſimilar occaſions in Perſia. On the night before a wedding, the friends and relations of the bride aſſemble at her houſe, attended by muſic, dancing girls, and other ſigns of feſtivity. A large quantity of the herb hinna is ſent by the bride-groom to the houſe of the bride. Her companions firſt convey her to the bath. After ſhe has bathed, they bring her back to her own houſe, and ſtain her hands and feet, at the ſame time

time painting her eye-brows with powder of antimony. When the whole buſineſs of bathing and ſtaining the bride is over, they ſend back what remains of the herb to the houſe of the bridegroom, where a like operation is performed on him by his friends.

In the Winter, eſpecially in the highland and mountainous parts of Scotland, which include extenſive regions on its ſouthern borders, the old women and men very generally wear a kind of boots or hoſe formed of a coarſe thick woollen cloth, or ſerge, which they call *plaiding*, and which they roll in folds, one above another, for the ſake of heat. In the Low Country of Scotland, there are many diſtricts, where the old men yet wear around their loins leathern belts or girdles, faſtened by an iron or braſs buckle, which, as we learn from ſculpture and painting, ſo late as towards the end of the laſt century, were very commonly worn even by the Scottiſh gentlemen.

Near Lord Hopetoun's is a remarkable arch thrown over a deep glen, a very rapid river precipitating itſelf about ſixty feet beneath, through large rocks, which, in Winter, cannot fail to make a tremendous appearance. Between Dumfries and Moffat, a ſpace of twenty-one miles, there is not a houſe in which you can find any accommodation that is tolerable.

Dine at Moffat, a very ſmall town, with ſome tolerable houſes in it, which are let to invalids who come to this place for the benefit of the water. Here are two ſprings, one of them about four miles from town, the ſtrongeſt mineral in Britain, and of a very bracing quality. The other, which is of a milder nature, and now commonly uſed, is not above a mile diſtant, and iſſues out of a rock about thirty feet high, by the ſide of a deepglen, at the bottom of which there runs a ſtrong ſtream. The former ſpring has been greatly injured by the admiſſion of another ſtream into it, which has deprived it of two thirds of its qualities.

Moffat is ſurrounded by high hills, and watered by the river Annan, here only a ſmall ſtream. The land, except near the tops of the hills, ſeems very capable of cultivation, and, ſuch as by induſtry, might produce good corn; for, wherever an attempt has been made, it ſeems to have been attended with ſucceſs: tho' their chief attention, in this part of the country, is beſtowed on the rearing of ſheep, which is done with leſs trouble, and with greater certainty of profit or ſucceſs. But, I ſhould think, that the culture of grain and the breeding of ſheep might be happily united; and the land in thoſe parts made more profitable, than it is in its preſent ſtate, both to the landlord and tenant, by encloſing the lower parts of the hills, and ſcreening them from the rudeneſs of the climate by trees. For in this barren tract, there is ſcarcely a tree or wood of any kind to be

ſeen,

ſeen, except a plantation of firs to the north of the town, which are yet in their infancy, but which clearly prove that trees will grow, if the inhabitants will only take the trouble to plant them. There is a good houſe here, belonging to Lord Hopetoun; and the next beſt is the inn, where there is good accommodation, and an ordinary, as at Matlock and Buxton.

Wedneſday, 22d June. Leave Moffat, and aſcend an hill, which is nearly three miles in height. From this height you have a moſt extenſive and dreary proſpect of the South Highlands, without ſo much as one ſingle tree or ſhrub to be ſeen, which ever way you turn your eye, for thirty miles around.

Ride fifteen miles to Elvan-foot, with this dreary waſte on every ſide. Croſs a bridge over the River Clyde, and arrive at a miſerable cottage, called an inn, where, notwithſtanding its appearance, we got a tolerable dinner, and ſome very good wine. There is an houſe here, belonging to Mr. Irvine, which is falling faſt to ruin. This inn, and a blackſmith's ſhop, are the only habitations to be ſeen in all this country, except a few temporary ſhepherds huts. This place may ſuit the tranſient purpoſes of a traveller, on a fine Summer's day, which this happened to be; but in Winter, it cannot be better deſcribed than by the following lines:

Wou'd

Wou'd Heaven, to puniſh ſome abandon'd wretch,
Puſh the dread vengeance to its utmoſt ſtretch,
Let him, in cold October's wintry ſtorm,
Where ſullen heaths the ſulky hills deform,
To bleak *Drumlanrig* * on an hack repair,
Deluged with floods of rain, and ſhelter there;
Or ſhould this curſed doom be too ſevere,
Let the vile miſcreant find a refuge here.

Among theſe mountains, and only two or three miles from each other, the Annan, the Clyde, and the Tweed, the principal rivers in the ſouth of Scotland, derive their ſource. Moſt of the mountains are covered, even to their ſummits, with tolerable graſs. But they feed nothing upon them but ſheep, and theſe, by no means in proportion to the extent of the country. The proprietors of land in the North and Weſt Highlands of Scotland have of late converted large tracts to the rearing of ſheep, that had in all former times been given up to the breed of black cattle. It is for the land-holders and tenants in the South Highlands of Scotland to conſider, whether it would not be for their intereſt, in like manner, to employ certain portions of their paſture lands, in the breed of horned cattle, eſpecially as they have a great advantage over the farmers of the north and the weſt parts of the country, in their vicinity to England. At Elvan-foot is an handſome bridge over the Clyde.

In

* The Duke of Queenſberry's ſeat.

In the afternoon ride to Douglas-Mill, through the ſame kind of wild country, fourteen miles. At this place there is a tolerable inn. About two miles from Douglas-Mill, ſtands the antient Caſtle of Douglas, ſituated on a ſmall river of the ſame name. Of the old caſtle there remains only part of one turret. Near the ſame ſpot there is a new caſtle, which, however, is not completely finiſhed. This, I ſuppoſe, was intended to be like the old one; but three turrets only, and part of the body of the caſtle, is all that is completed. Many of the rooms are ſpacious and lofty, but not well executed. The turrets are circular, and have handſome rooms in them, on each ſtory, which, in the upper ſtory, are very convenient, being converted to the purpoſe of dreſſing-rooms for the bed-chambers. If this houſe, or caſtle, were finiſhed, it would be a magnificent building: but I do not find that Mr. Douglas ever intends to live in it. The park, which is nearly three miles round, is well planted, and many of the trees are very old. But all the country around, far and near, is open, and, for the moſt part, nothing but ſheep-ground. About a mile from the caſtle is the village of Douglas.

Thurſday, June 23d. Leave Douglas-Mill, and go to Lanerk. Having travelled about three miles, we fall in with the Clyde, the banks of which are under tolerable cultivation, and in ſome places prettily adorned with hanging woods. In this ride, the country improves every mile,

and

and begins to be enriched by ſeveral gentlemen's ſeats, with plantations about them, which, after the wide waſtes and dreary ſolitudes lately traverſed, affords a pleaſing relief to the eye, and wears the appearance of comfort. On the right hand, about five miles from Lanerk, is a ſeat of Lord Hyndford. A mile further, croſs a very elegant bridge, of five arches, over the Clyde. Nearly two miles from Lanerk, we got out of the chaiſe, and walked about a mile out of the road, to an houſe called Corra Lynn,* belonging to Sir John Lockhart Roſs; cloſe by which are the Falls of the Clyde, which exhibit the firſt ſcene of this kind in Great Britain. Many circumſtances concur to render theſe ſublime falls beautifully pictureſque: woody banks, the romantic face of the country, and the form of the rocks over which they daſh, ſo varied, as to give the mighty torrent the grandeſt, as well as the moſt diverſified appearance.

At the diſtance of about a mile from this magnificent object, you ſee a thick ſmoke aſcending to Heaven over the ſtately woods. As you advance you hear a ſullen noiſe, which, ſoon after, almoſt ſtuns your ears. Doubling, as you proceed, a tuft of wood, you are ſtruck at once with the aweful

ſcene

* It is to this ſcene that Allan Ramſay alludes, as to the greateſt poſſible hyperbole, when, in his Elegy on John Cowper, a burleſque poem, he ſays,

O! could my tears, like Clyde down rin,
And make a noiſe like Corra Lynn.

Nasmyth pinx.

F. Cary sculp.

CORRA LINN

ſcene which ſuddenly burſts upon your aſtoniſhed ſight. Your organs of perception are hurried along, and partake of the turbulence of the roaring waters. The powers of recollection remain ſuſpended by this ſudden ſhock; and it is not till after a conſiderable time, that you are enabled to contemplate the ſublime horrors of this majeſtic ſcene.

At the Corra Lynn, the river, which is very large, is precipitated over a ſolid rock, not leſs than 100 feet; and, at Stone-Byers, about a mile higher up the Clyde, there is another fall, of about ſixty feet, where the river, confined within a narrow bed, makes one entire ſhoot over the rock. At both theſe places, this great body of water, ruſhing with horrid fury, ſeems to threaten deſtruction to the ſolid rocks that enrage it by their reſiſtance. It boils up from the caverns which itſelf has formed, as if it were vomited out of the lower regions. The horrid and inceſſant din with which this is accompanied, unnerves and overcomes the heart. In vain you look for ceſſation or reſt to this troubled ſcene. Day after day, and year after year, it continues its furious courſe; and every moment ſeems as if wearied Nature were going to general wreck.

It is a certain truth, that ſuch falls of water as theſe, exhibit grander and more intereſting ſcenes than even any of thoſe outrageous appearances that are formed by ſtorms,

when unreſiſted by rocks or land, in the troubled ocean. In the ſea, water rolls heavily on water, without offering to our view any appearance of *inherent* impetuoſity.

The caſcade at the Corra Lynn, though it falls from the greateſt altitude, and in one uninterrupted ſheet, is narrow in proportion to its height: that at Stone-Byers, though not much more than half the height of the other, has ſomewhat in it of greater grandeur. It is three times as wide; its maſs is more diverſified; its eddies more turbulent and outrageous; and, without being divided into ſuch a number of parts as might take any thing from its ſublimity, it exhibits a variety of forms that give a greater appearance both of quantity and of diſorder.

In the Corra Lynn, juſt where the water begins to fall down the horrid deep, there ſtands on a pointed rock a ruined caſtle, which about fifty years ago was inhabited. In floods, the rock and caſtle ſhake in ſuch a manner as to ſpill water in a glaſs. Imagination can ſcarcely conceive a ſituation more awefully romantic, or, before the uſe of gunpowder, more impregnable.

On the edge alſo of this ſtupendous fall of water ſtands a mill, whoſe feeble wheel ſeems ready to be daſhed in pieces, even by the ſkirts of its foam.

The

L. Playfair Delin.ᵗ — Heath sculp.

Stone Byers Lynn on the Clyde.

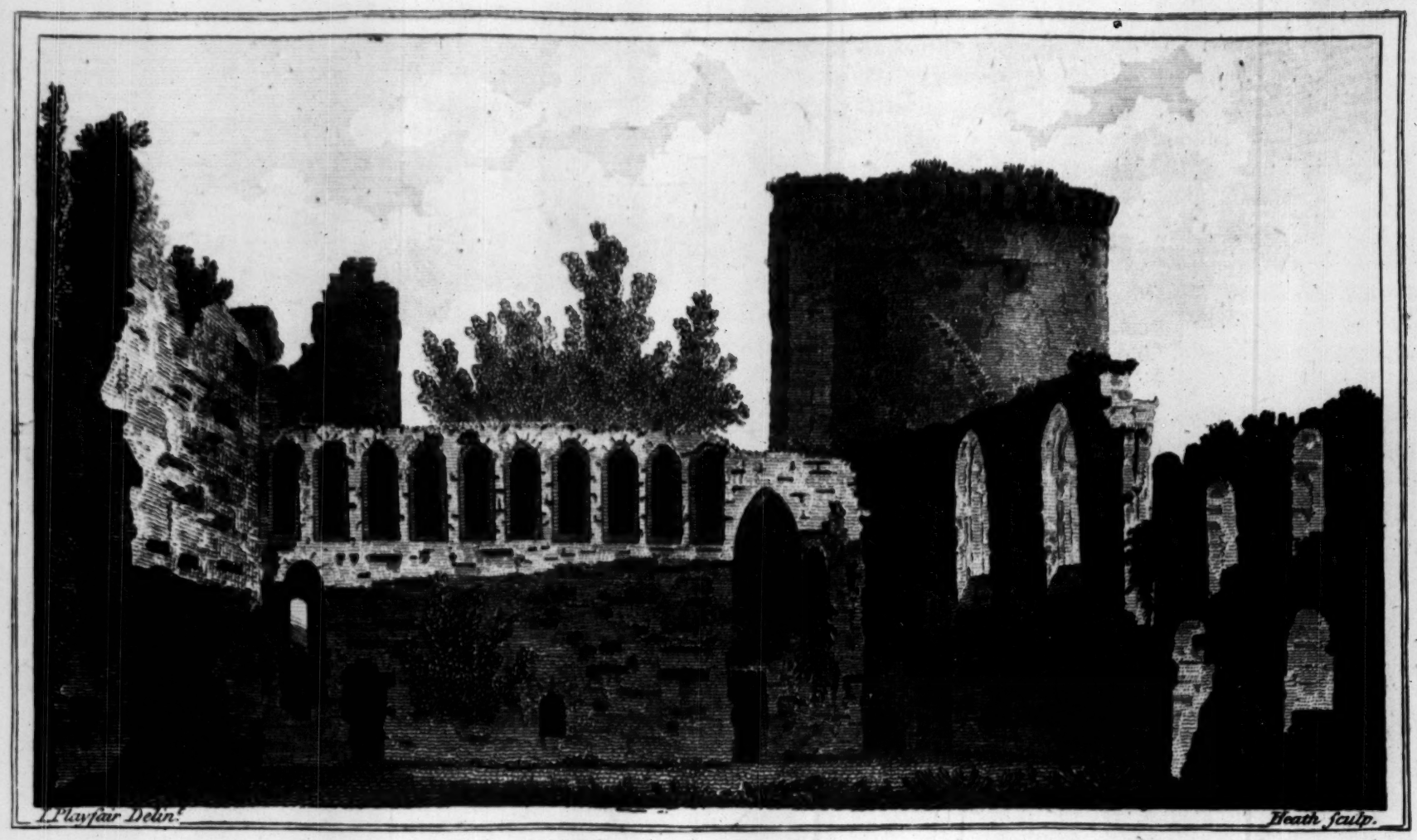
Publishd as the Act directs June 2ᵈ 1788 by G. Robinson & Partners.

The walk between the higher and the lower falls is extremely beautiful and romantic. The rocks, on each ſide of the river, are an hundred feet high, and covered with wood. It runs alſo over a bed of ſolid rock, in many places broken, and worn into large cavities by the violence of the water, which, from a variety of interruptions, aſſumes a variety of directions, and in other places, numberleſs inferior caſcades. The two principal falls, when the river is full, are tremendous beyond deſcription. In the Summer months, the quantity of water which it contains, is not generally ſo great as to prevent the curious traveller from making ſo near an approach, as may enable him to take a minute and accurate ſurvey of its beauties.

From the Corra Lynn the Clyde continues to run for ſeveral miles, between high rocks covered with wood; on either ſide are ſeveral good houſes, very pleaſantly ſituated; and the land about them well improved. We dined at Lanerk, delightfully ſituated on the brow of an hill above the Clyde, which commands a very pleaſing proſpect. Lanerk is a borough town, but ſmall and ill built; and the inhabitants appear to be rather in a ſtate of poverty. In the evening go to Hamilton, a neat well-built town, with ſome very good houſes in it. The Inn here, where we ſlept, is a very good one. It is kept by a Mr. Clarke, from London. At the end of this town is the Duke of Hamilton's houſe, which forms three ſides of a quadrangle, placed

in a very low ſituation. Some of the rooms in it are large and ſpacious, but in general, not well furniſhed. Among the pictures that adorn this place, there is one which is indeed capital, namely, Daniel in the Den of Lions. On a hill in front of the houſe, is a fanciful building in the ſtile of a caſtle, where there are two or three ſitting rooms, which command a very pleaſant proſpect. The reſt of the building is allotted to ſervants, and other purpoſes. Here the Ducheſs has a very pleaſant flower-garden, and, notwithſtanding the height of the ſpot, every thing in it was very forward at this time, and all the flowers of the ſeaſon in full bloom. From this building is a delightful ride of eight miles, on the verge of a fine wood, which hangs over the River Clyde. In a part of this ride we paſſed by a number of oaks, of much greater antiquity than any we had ſeen ſince we entered Scotland. Near theſe venerable trees, and on the top of a rock which hangs over the river, are the ruins of the old caſtle of the Hamiltons. Of this ſtructure little now remains, except the gateway. Here we were ſhewn ſome of the original cattle of the country, lineally deſcended from the wild ones, but which, like their preſent maſters, have now grown tame and civilized. At the Duke's houſe is a moſt excellent garden of ſeven acres, well ſtocked. The walls are covered with fruit trees, which are in a very flouriſhing ſtate, and which exhibit not any ſymptoms of the bad climate complained of in this country. Cherries and ſtrawberries were at this time quite ripe; and moſt

other



J. Playfair Delin.

Heath sculp.

Bothwell Castle.

Publish'd as the Act directs June 2d 1788 by G. Robinson & Partners.

other fruits were brought to maturity, in their proper ſeaſon, without the aid of art, which was not the caſe at the Duke of Devonſhire's, in Derbyſhire. At the Duke of Hamilton's there is alſo a good hot-houſe and green-houſe.

Saturday, the 25th June. Leave Hamilton, and proceed to Glaſgow, a very pleaſant ride, through a well improved country, of eleven miles, part of it on the banks of the Clyde. About three miles from Hamilton is Bothwell-Bridge, where a famous battle was fought in 1651, between the Loyaliſts and Scotch Covenanters. About two miles from this is Bothwell Caſtle, belonging to the Douglas family, which is an antient ſtructure, exactly in the ſtile, as well as correſponding in magnitude, to the old Welch caſtles. The walls, a great part of which is ſtill ſtanding, were ſixty feet high, and fifteen thick. This enormous maſs, in one part, cruſhed its foundation, and rock and caſtle fell down together in the Clyde. The breach in the foundation was afterwards filled up, and the wall that had fallen rebuilt. This caſtle formed an oblong ſquare, or internal quadrangle, with a round turret at each corner, three of which are ſtill entire; but all the internal part is demoliſhed. In the center of the building ſtood the citadel, or keep, which was the moſt inacceſſible part of the caſtle. The windows were placed very high, the bottoms of them at leaſt fifteen feet from the ground; and all of them looked into the ſquare, or area. The elevated ſituation of the windows,

dows, as well as their internal aſpect towards the great court, were precautions, we may preſume, againſt the arrows or other miſſile weapons which might be thrown into them by an enemy. On the ſame principle we may account for the elevated poſition, as well as the narrowneſs of the windows, in all other antient edifices. On the oppoſite ſide of the river, are to be ſeen the remains of the beautiful Caſtle of Blantyre, formerly a monaſtery, belonging to the nobleman of that title. Between this monaſtery and Bothwell-Caſtle, there was a ſecret and ſubterraneous communication, below the bed of the Clyde: ſo that the antient Douglaſſes were ſecured by the architecture, and the religion of the times, as well as the valour of their arms. Near this Mr. Douglas has lately built a very commodious as well as elegant houſe, in the modern ſtile, on a ſite that commands a view of both the Clyde and the old caſtle.

Dine at Glaſgow, a large and well built city, containing about 50,000 inhabitants. A conſiderable trade has been carried on here, in tobacco and rum, from the Weſt Indies and Virginia; but it is now conſiderably diminiſhed. The capitals, however, the mercantile habits, and the adventurous ſpirit of the people, are ſtriking with ſucceſs into new paths of induſtry. The cotton manufacturers, particularly, are increaſing daily, and eſpecially thoſe of nankeens, which are of as good a fabric as thoſe of China.

The

The College of Glaſgow is about the ſize of the ſmalleſt at Oxford, and is capable of admitting a conſiderable number of ſtudents, although only eight or ten live in it, the reſt being diſperſed in private lodgings in the city. There are profeſſors here, of all the ſciences, many of whom, as Simſon, Hutchinſon, Smith, Muir, Millar, and Reid, are celebrated in the republic of letters. The diſperſion of the ſtudents in private quarters, here as at Edinburgh, prevents that monaſtic diſcipline which is ſtill preſerved, in ſome degree, in the two other Scottiſh Univerſities of inferior renown. But, to balance this diſadvantage, if it be a diſadvantage, in Edinburgh and Glaſgow, the Faculties have ſtill ſome regard to decency, and to the name and dignity of their reſpective Univerſities, in granting literary degrees.

Degrees in Divinity were not coveted till of late by the Scottiſh clergy. They did not well accord with their levelling principles; but they are now generally given to ſuch clergymen, as either by themſelves or their friends make application for them, or to whom there is reaſon to believe that ſuch a mark of diſtinction would be agreeable; and no previous examination or recommendation as to their character or qualifications is thought neceſſary. The degrees of L. L. D. are conferred in like manner upon the nobility, gentry, and ſuch as have no pretenſions to the character of divines. To this there can be no material objection, ſuch degrees being generally given to men whoſe characters in life

life are fixed and known; provided that the Colleges preſerve a regard for their own importance and dignity ſo far, as that no Degrees be conferred on perſons who may reflect diſgrace upon the Univerſity that granted them. But if once any of the Colleges, however renowned for literature, ſhould paſs the fatal reſolution of making no other qualifications neceſſary, than the payment of the pitiful fees or emoluments for a Degree, they muſt ſoon come to the ſituation of that Univerſity in a neighbouring kingdom, where, when a certain waggiſh traveller who was paſſing that way, had put up at an inn, the landlord aſked him before he departed, whether he choſe to have a Degree, which would only coſt him two Louiſdores. The money was ſent, and, without any other formality, the Degree of Doctor received. The gentleman ſent two more Louiſdores, and requeſted that they would give him a Diploma for his horſe alſo. But the anſwer was, that though they had often conferred degrees on aſſes, they had as yet no precedent for granting a Diploma to a horſe!

There is, however, another degree, which all the Univerſities ought to be much more cautious in diſpoſing of, I mean that of Doctor in Medicine; but this ſhall be more fully mentioned when we come to Edinburgh.

The ſalaries of the Principal and Second Profeſſor of Divinity, (for the Principal is reckoned the Firſt) in the College

lege of Glaſgow, are about 300l. per annum each, but they receive no fees.

The ſalaries of the other Profeſſors are only from 100l. to 150; but with the profits of their claſſes, they amount from 200 to 300l. per annum. The Profeſſorſhip of Law, owing to the reputation of the preſent incumbent, Dr. Millar, is generally about 900l. per annum. It is ſurpriſing he has not been removed to Edinburgh! In the other Scotch univerſities, ſmall ſalaries are allowed to the profeſſors of divinity, as well as houſes and gardens: but, then, they are not permitted, like the profeſſors of literature and philoſophy, to take any fees from their pupils; which, according to the nice and delicate feelings of the Scottiſh reformers, would be a ſpecies of *ſimony*, or ſelling the Holy Ghoſt for money.

The college garden is pleaſant, though not very extenſive. The library, which is a tolerable room, contains about 3,000 volumes.

In the city of Glaſgow there are eleven kirks, beſides ſundry conventicles and meeting-houſes. The Eighty-five Societies, or fellowſhip-meetings of the handicraftſmen of Glaſgow, and chiefly the weavers, in which they inſtruct one another in metaphyſical notions in theology, are celebrated by the petitions preſented to parliament by Lord G.

Gordon. In ſuch, and ſo extenſive a city, lying in the moſt puritanical part of Scotland, and in which ſo great a proportion of the people are ſhut in from the open air and face of Nature, and confined to ſedentary, and often ſolitary employment, it is not to be wondered, that there is much fanaticiſm, grimace, and hypocriſy. It is not many years ſince the magiſtrates of Glaſgow, humouring the auſterity of certain of their clergy, and the general prejudices of the people, were wont to be very rigid in enforcing a judaical obſervance of the ſabbath. The elders, a claſs of men in Scotland that ſeem to unite in their perſons ſomewhat of the authority of curates, conſtables, and church-wardens, uſed to ſearch, on the Sunday evenings, the public houſes; and if any perſon, not belonging to the family, was found there, he was ſubjected to a fine, or, if he could not give an account of himſelf, perhaps to impriſonment. Yet means were found by all who had a mind to evade the laws of ſobriety in the following manner. They called at an elder's houſe, on pretence of ſeeking the benefit of his prayers or family worſhip. This duty being over, the elder put up his bible on an adjoining ſhelf, and took down a bowl, in which he made a ſmall quantity of punch, preſenting, at the ſame time, ſomething to eat, as ham, oat-cake, cheeſe, dried fiſh, &c. which they call a *reliſh*. The elder's bowl being ſoon exhauſted, each of the gueſts, in his turn, inſiſted on having alſo his bowl; for which demands the landlord took care, before hand, to be well provided with rum and other

ingredients,

ingredients, which he retailed, in this private manner, chiding his gueſts, at the ſame time that he drank glaſs for glaſs, for their intemperance. The company parted at a late hour, ſufficiently repleniſhed, it muſt be owned, with the ſpirit.

A more liberal ſpirit, it is juſtice to obſerve, begins to prevail here, as in other parts of Scotland. In Glaſgow, we find the moſt complete abbey that is in Scotland, in which there are now three places for public devotion; one of them in the ſpot which was formerly appointed for the burial of the dead; a moſt gloomy place, and well adapted to the genius of the Preſbyterian religion. This cathedral was preſerved, at the Reformation, from a rabble that came to deſtroy it from the country, by the townſmen, who, though zealous reformers, liſtened to the judicious remonſtrance of their chief magiſtrate. "I am for pulling down the high church," ſaid the Provoſt, "but not till we have firſt built a new one." The biſhop's palace, however, fell a ſacrifice to their fury. Two handſome bridges extend over the Clyde. In this city, there are two glaſs-houſes; one for making black, the other for making white glaſs. There is a canal from this place to the eaſt ſea, which will admit of veſſels of 150 tons.

Sunday, 26th June. Go from Glaſgow to Paiſley. Many good houſes on each ſide of the road, and both ſides of the

river well improved and wooded. The Clyde, after paſſing Glaſgow, has level, green, and fertile banks, always filled up to the brim by the rains that fall ſo plentifully on the weſtern ſhores of Scotland. Mr. Spears, a merchant in Glaſgow, has built near Renfrew, a very handſome villa, ſuch as a capital merchant in London might have erected on the Thames, at an expence not leſs than 10,000l.

On the beautiful River Cart, which diſcharges itſelf in the Clyde, near Renfrew, about two miles from Paiſley, there is a very pleaſing ſeat, belonging to the Earl of Glaſgow. The city of Glaſgow, and the town of Paiſley, are both within view of this charming reſidence. The River Cart meanders ſweetly through the park; and Cruickſtone-Caſtle, now in ruins ſtanding on a moſt beautiful eminence adds an intereſt to the delightful ſcene, having been a *maiſon de plaiſance* to the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots. It was here that ſhe indulged her loves with Lord Darnley, during the happy period of their union, and here ſprings freſh, to this hour, her favourite yew-tree, which ſhe often impreſſed on her copper coin. The remains of a ditch are ſtill to be traced round the caſtle, and the ruins are pictureſque, though not extenſive. In examining the interior parts of this old manſion, you can ſtill diſtinguiſh the lofty hall where the tender Mary, among a race of barbarian and ruffian lords, diſplayed the refinements of France, and the charms of Venus. You can alſo trace her favourite apartment,

ment, where ſhe dedicated the ſoft hours of her retirement to the Loves and Graces.

Lady Glaſgow, much to her praiſe, has lately contributed to the preſervation of this intereſting ruin, by a well-timed ſupport to its decaying foundations.

Paiſley contains 20,000 inhabitants, the greateſt part of whom are employed in the manufacture of ſilk and thread gauze. This laſt is made from five-pence halfpenny to nine-pence per yard, and the ſilk from nine-pence to twelve ſhillings. The people are paid by the yard, in proportion to the fineneſs of the gauze. Some of the men and women earn five ſhillings a day for that article. Very young girls are employed in weaving the coarſer ſort. Some of them weave three yards a day or more, and can earn thirteen or fourteen pence. Young children are alſo made uſeful in preparing the ſilk and thread for the loom, and are paid from four-pence to ſix-pence a day.

At this place are the remains of an antient abbey, built in the year 1100, part of which is in tolerable order, and ſerves inſtead of a kirk. There are two other regular kirks in Paiſley, and five Diſſenting Meeting-houſes. The manufactory here was eſtabliſhed about twenty-five years ago, by an Engliſhman of the name of Philips; and it is now increaſed to the amazing magnitude of giving employment

and

and ſubſiſtence to 15,000 ſouls. They have lately introduced the cotton manufacture here, which is increaſing very faſt.

The town of Paiſley is near two miles long, and the new part of it, which has been built within theſe five years, contains many very good houſes, built of free-ſtone. The principal manufacturers are ſixteen in number, ſeven Engliſh and nine Scotch. Many of theſe have made conſiderable fortunes, ſet up their carriages, and built, in the neighbourhood of the town, elegant country houſes.

Many houſes in Paiſley pay, in wages to journeymen weavers, women and children, 500l. a week. The carriage of new gauze patterns from London to this place, by the coach and waggons, coſts 500l. a year. A fertile country, cheap labour, a ſober and ſteady people, abundance of coal and water carriage, were the circumſtances which invited Engliſh manufacturers to ſettle in this country; and the juſtneſs of their views has been fully evinced by the moſt proſperous ſucceſs.

In the abbey, which belongs to Lord Abercorn, there is a monument of the wife of Robert Bruce, who broke her neck near this place, when ſhe was big with child. The infant was preſerved, and afterwards created Lord Semple, and was grandfather to James I. The bells were taken out of

of this abbey, and are now at Durham. There is a moſt excellent inn at Paiſley, built by Lord Abercorn, and kept in very good order by the preſent landlord, Mr. Watts, who provided us with a handſome carriage, and horſes that performed a journey of 600 miles through the moſt mountainous part of Scotland with the greateſt eaſe. The civility and attention of Mr. Watts merits this remembrance.

Monday at Paiſley.

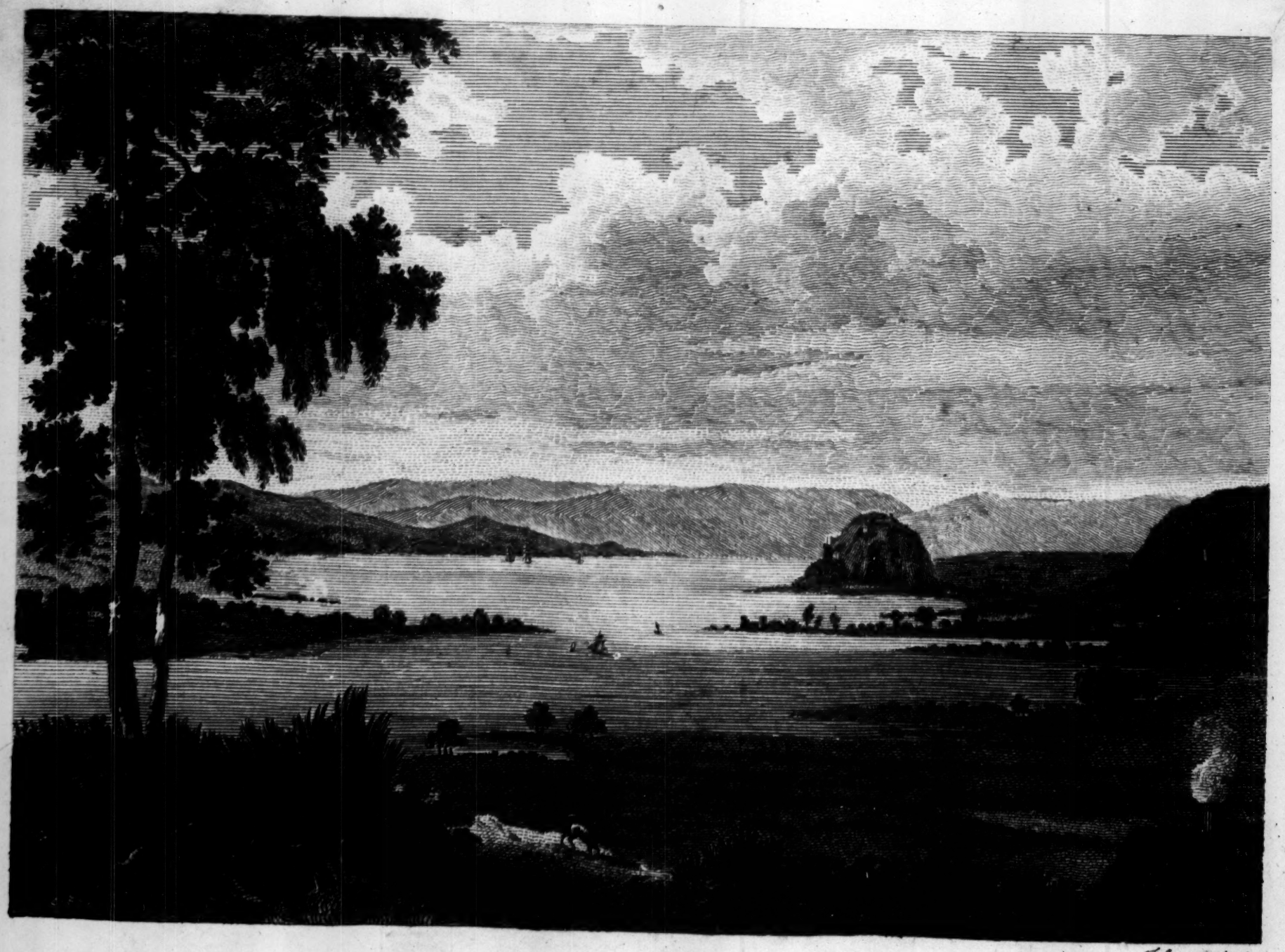
Tueſday, 28th June. Return to Glaſgow, the country between which and Paiſley is pretty well cultivated, and preſents ſeveral pleaſant proſpects. The country round Glaſgow produces but little corn, nor is there ſuch an attention ſhewn to AGRICULTURE as might be expected near the ſecond city in Scotland. A great deal of ground is appropriated to the purpoſe of raiſing vegetables for the table, but they will not take the trouble to water any of the plants, let the ſeaſon be ever ſo dry. In the city of Glaſgow, there are many houſes, to all outward appearance, exceedingly elegant. They are, however, only half finiſhed. The window-ſhutters and doors are unpainted deal, and many of the walls bare plaiſter. So large and opulent a city as this might have water conveyed into it, and be drained, without oppreſſing the inhabitants, by which means it would be much cleaner, and of courſe, more healthful. The police of the city ſeems to be well attended to. It is governed by

a provoſt

a provoſt and twelve inferior magiſtrates, who take cognizance of ſmall offences, and chaſtiſe petty offenders by ſlight puniſhments. Two of the juſticiary lords come here twice a year from Edinburgh, to try offences of an higher nature, and to inflict proportional puniſhments.

The inn, or rather the hotel at Glaſgow, called the Tontine, is a very large houſe. The coffee-room, and ball-room, are very elegant: but there are only ſix bed-rooms. The liquors, of all kinds, are exceedingly good.

Wedneſday, 29th June. Leave Glaſgow and ride to Dunbarton, fourteen miles on the banks of the Clyde. Dunbarton is a ſmall town, in a ſemi-circular form. Being well ſituated for receiving kelp from the weſtern coaſt of Scotland, it has two glaſs-houſes, both of which find full employment. The caſtle is ſituated on a rocky hill, nearly conical, riſing out of a plain, to the height of 500 feet, defended, where it is acceſſible, by a wall, and its baſe waſhed by the Clyde and the Leven, whoſe pure ſtream flows entirely from Loch-Lomond. The rock of this hill has, at different times, tumbled down in large fragments, which remain upon the plain below, forming an huge maſs of ruins. The country around is for ſeveral miles quite level. The view from Dunbarton-Caſtle up and down the Clyde, is very pleaſant, and particularly beautified by the towns of Greenock and Port-Glaſgow, which run out into the



F. Carey, Sculpt

DUNBARTON CASTLE with the COUNTRY around

the river. The reſidence of Lord Semple, with another ſeat acquired by marriage, on the ſouth ſide of the Clyde, and Lord Blantyre's, near Port-Glaſgow, are very good houſes, and add to the beauty of this ſtriking landſcape. The land about them is well wooded, and greatly improved. The Clyde, above Port-Glaſgow, becomes very ſhallow, and will not admit of veſſels above 80 tuns. To the north of Dunbarton there is a fine vale, well cultivated and peopled; and Ben-Lomond, a very high and ſtupendous mountain, prominent from the Grampians, forms the back ground of this magnificent proſpect.

On the caſtle of Dunbarton are mounted thirty guns. The garriſon conſiſts of a Captain, a Lieutenant, an Enſign, and ſixty privates. On the ſouth ſide of the rock there is a good houſe for the Governor. The Gunner's houſe and barracks are higher up, and the magazine, which is bomb-proof, is on the very ſummit. This bold eminence is not of eaſy acceſs, at any place, and, if fortified in the modern ſtile, would be as impregnable on the ſide of the water as the rock of Gibraltar. It has the advantage of ſeveral good ſprings in it, which produce a ſufficient quantity of water for any number of men.

At Dunbarton there is a tolerable inn, kept by Macfarlane, at the Macfarlane Arms. The priſon, oppoſite to this houſe, forms not a very pleaſant object. This day was kept ſacred

on account of the preparation for the ſacrament. At leaſt 1,200 people attended this ſolemnity; all of them with ſhoes and ſtockings, and otherwiſe very clean, and well dreſſed. The weather was at this time remarkably hot. The thermometer ſtood 84.

Thurſday, 30th June. Leave Dunbarton, and go to Luſs. The banks of the Leven, up to Loch-Lomond, are fertile and populous. The pure ſtream is well adapted to bleaching, and other uſeful purpoſes. Theſe pleaſing ſcenes, in the fore ground, are contraſted with the purply-blue hills of the Highlands behind, riſing over them in aweful grandeur; and the majeſtic Ben-Lomond, like the father of the mountains, which ſeem to do him homage, rearing his venerable head into the clouds. And here the traveller from the low countries, is ſuddenly and forcibly ſtruck with the character of the Highlands. The number of the mountains, their approximation to one another, their abrupt and perpendicular elevation: all theſe circumſtances taken together, give an idea of a country *conſiſting* of mountains without intermiſſion, formed by Nature into an impregnable fortreſs. This is the fortreſs, which has enabled the natural hardineſs and valour of the antient Caledonians to tranſmit, from the earlieſt records of their hiſtory, the dignity of an unconquered and independent nation, to their lateſt poſterity.

The woody banks of Loch-Lomond, with its irregular form, and its numerous and variegated iſlands, running up, and vaniſhing at an immenſe diſtance, among the baſes of lofty mountains, form an object both aweful and pleaſing, and happily unite the beautiful with the ſublime.

About two miles from Dunbarton is a pillar, erected to the memory of Smollet, who was born in this country, on the banks of the Leven, four miles from Dunbarton. Arrive at the edge of Loch-Lomond: get into a boat, and row ſix miles to Luſs, which is a ſmall village.

Friday, July 1ſt. Go upon the lake, in a boat, and dine upon an iſland, called Inchconachan: catch ſome good trout, and return in the evening to Luſs.

Saturday, July 2d. Navigate the lake, and paſs round moſt of the iſlands. A hard gale of wind, and the lake greatly agitated. At Luſs there is a tolerable inn, kept by one Grant.

Sunday, 3d July. Went to the top of an hill, which took two hours to aſcend it, and two to come down. From hence we had a moſt extenſive view to the ſouth and eaſt of Stirling and Edinburgh, with the parts adjacent, and, to the weſt and north of the ſea, and the tops of an hundred craggy mountains, diſmal, bleak and barren, on a near view, but

which ſeen at a great diſtance, aſſume an undulating and blue appearance, reſembling the waves of the agitated ſea.

Loch-Lomond is twenty-four miles long, and about eight broad. Near the ſouth-end, it has from 20 to 140 fathom water. It is chiefly towards this end, too, that it is interſperſed with various iſlands, to the number of twenty-four. Several of theſe are from one to three miles broad: ſome riſe a conſiderable height above the water, and are well covered with wood: others are flat, have a great deal of grazing land, and, in ſome places, produce good corn: a few of them are barren rocks, with here and there ſome ſtraggling ſhrubs and trees. The ſouthern part of the lake is environed with high mountains. Some of theſe, ſloping gradually down to the water's edge, produce, towards their baſe, a great quantity of graſs, and ſome corn; particularly, on the ſouth-eaſt ſide of the loch, where the Duke of Montroſe has an houſe, and much cultivated land around it. On the weſt ſide, on a large promontory, well covered with wood, Sir James Colquhoun has built a very handſome modern houſe, which is beautifully ſituated, and commands ſeveral fine views of the loch. All the northern parts of this great body of water are encompaſſed by ſtupendous, barren mountains, riſing almoſt perpendicularly from the tranſparent ſurface, which reflects and ſoftens their rude image; with the exception of only a few ſpots, in which there is a conſiderable quantity of wood, with

ſome

ſome pretty large trees; and in ſome places a ſmall extent of level ground, which enables the poor inhabitants to ſcratch out a few acres of corn and potatoes for their ſcanty meal in the Winter. On the ſouthern point of an iſland, in this extenſive and beautiful lake, called Inchmerran, a deer-park of the Duke of Montroſe's, there ſtands an antient caſtle, which formerly belonged to the family of Lennox.

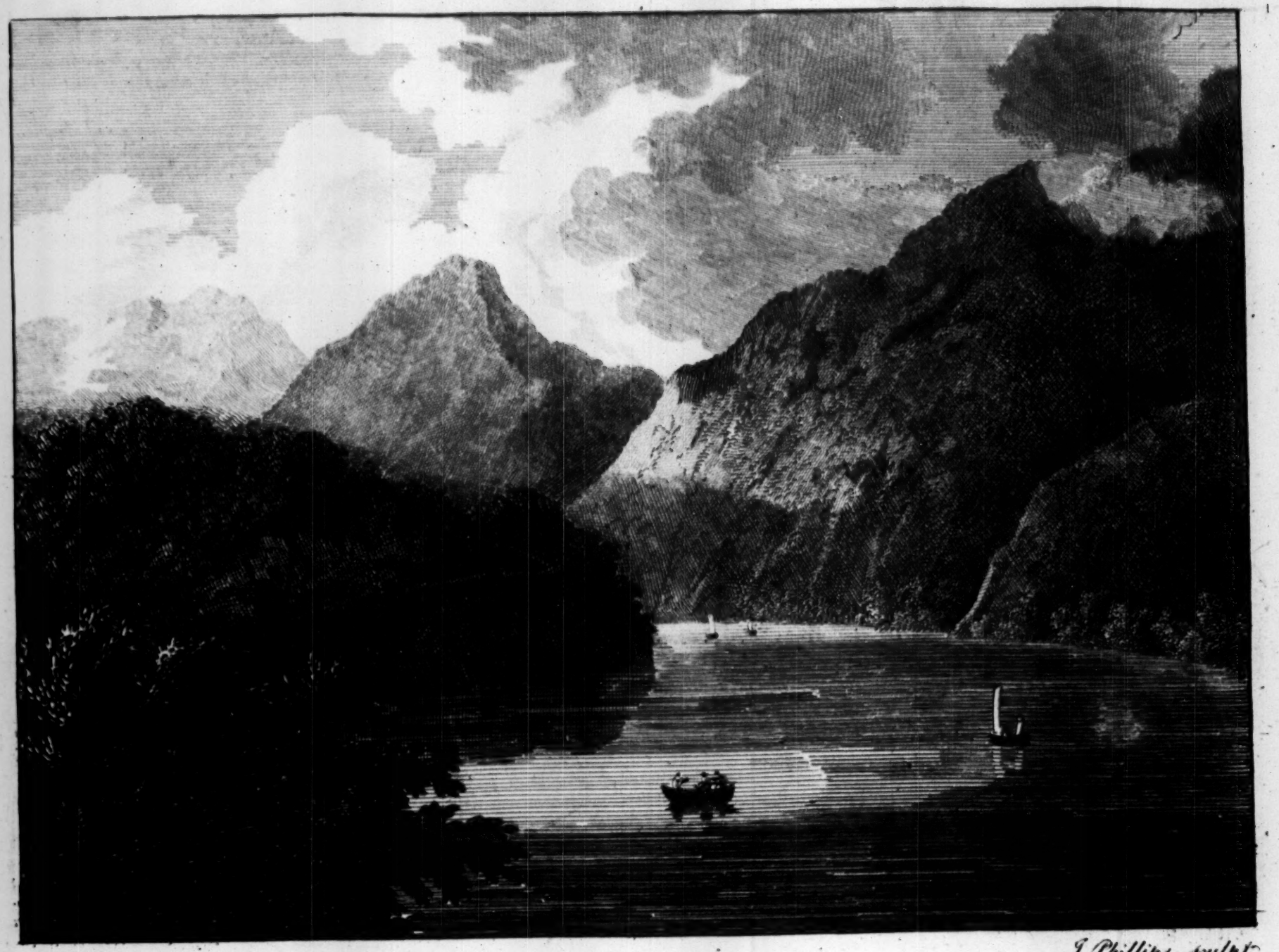
The ſouth end of Loch-Lomond, beautifully interſperſed with iſles, preſents a number of charming proſpects: but all the northern part of it being narrow, and bounded, and overſhadowed by the moſt tremendous precipices, tends only to fill the mind with horror, and leads us to lament the unhappy lot of thoſe whoſe deſtiny it is to live within its confines. Very different from this are the lakes of Cumberland and Weſtmoreland, where an appearance of plenty gladdens the ſympathetic heart, as much as the romantic proſpects which they afford, amuſe the imagination.

On the ſides of the mountains that environ Loch-Lomond, near the edge of the water, there is a good deal of birch, oak, and other underwood, with ſome tolerable trees. This underwood is cut down at the end of every fifteen years. The bark of the oak is peeled off for tanners: and the wood of this, and other underwood and trees, being turned into charcoal, is ſent to Glaſgow: a ſpecies of commerce which muſt be tolerably productive, as the convey-

ance

ance from the Loch to the Clyde is all by water. This circumſtance tends to ſtimulate general induſtry, and to increaſe the value of the whole vicinity of Loch-Lomond. The fiſh in this lake are, trout, ſalmon, perch, pike, &c. which the ſurrounding inhabitants, notwithſtanding the incitement of water conveyance to the Firth of the Clyde, take for their own uſe only. At the ſouth end of the loch a number of black cattle are fed, and, at the north, a few ſtraggling ſheep.

Monday, July 4th. Leave Luſs, and ride, by the ſide of Loch-Lomond, eight miles, to Tarbat, where there is an inn much better and cleaner than that at Luſs. Oppoſite to this inn appears the majeſty of Ben-Lomond. We waited two days for an opportunity of aſcending it, but the clouds were ſo low, that it was uncovered but once the whole of this time, and that only for a few minutes. From the ſhape of the cloud which hangs almoſt conſtantly over this mountain, the country people form predictions reſpecting the weather. Meteorological obſervations and predictions from the ſhapes of the clouds that over-hang hills, as at the Cape of Good Hope, are commonly made by ſailors.



Callender pinxt *J. Phillips sculpt.*

BEN LOMOND

ON BEN-LOMOND.

Stranger, if o'er this pane of glaſs, perchance,
Thy roving eye ſhould caſt a caſual glance,
If taſte for grandeur and the dread ſublime
Prompt thee *Ben-Lomond*'s fearful height to climb,
Here gaze attentive; nor with ſcorn refuſe,
The friendly rhymings of a tavern muſe.
For thee that muſe this rude inſcription plann'd,
Prompted for thee her humble poet's hand.
Heed thou the Poet, he thy ſteps ſhall lead
Safe o'er yon towering hill's aſpiring head;
Attentive, then, to this informing lay,
Read how he dictates, as he points the way.
Truſt not at firſt a quick advent'rous pace,
Six miles its top points gradual from the baſe.
Up the high riſe with panting haſte I paſs'd,
And gain'd the long laborious ſteep at laſt.
More prudent thou, when once you paſs the deep,
With meaſur'd pace, and ſlow, aſcend the lengthen'd ſteep,
Oft ſtay thy ſteps, oft taſte the cordial drop,
And reſt, O reſt, long, long, upon the top.
There hail the breezes, nor with toilſome haſte
Down the rough ſlope thy precious vigour waſte.
So ſhall thy wondering ſight at once ſurvey
Vales, lakes, woods, mountains, iſlands, rocks, and ſea;
Huge hills that heap'd in crouded order ſtand,
Stretch'd o'er the northern, and the weſtern land;
Vaſt lumpy groups, while *Ben*, who often ſhrouds
His loftier ſummit in a veil of clouds,
High o'er the reſt diſplays ſuperior ſtate,
In proud pre-eminence ſublimely great.

One ſide all aweful to the gazing eye,
Preſents a ſteep three hundred fathom high.
The ſcene tremendous, ſhocks the ſtartled ſenſe,
With all the pomp of dread magnificence:
All theſe, and more, ſhalt thou tranſported ſee,
And own a faithful monitor in me.*

Leave Tarbat, and ride two miles to the top of Loch-Long, an arm of the ſea, where the tide riſes about ſix feet. At the north-eaſt end of this loch is a ſmall houſe, with ſome firs about it, the reſidence of the Laird of Macfarlane, renowned, among other good qualities, for his knowledge of Scottiſh antiquities, particularly genealogies, and for taſte and proficiency in the antient Scottiſh muſic. Ride two miles round the end of Loch-Long, where there is another houſe of the ſame ſort, belonging to a gentleman of the name of Campbell, which has a view of Glencroe, with a river multiplied by a thouſand caſcades from the tops of craggy mountains roaring over looſe ſtones, juſt by his houſe, and diſcharging itſelf into the lake. At this place enter Glencroe, which is ſix miles long, and at ſeveral places ſo narrow, that the road has been made by blowing out the ſolid rock, and is carried above the river, which runs over large rocks below, and occupies the bottom of the glen. The ſides of the mountains on each hand, formed of black, craggy rocks, are almoſt perpendicular. While we

* Theſe lines are written on a pane of glaſs, at the inn of Tarbat; and they are ſubſcribed J. R.

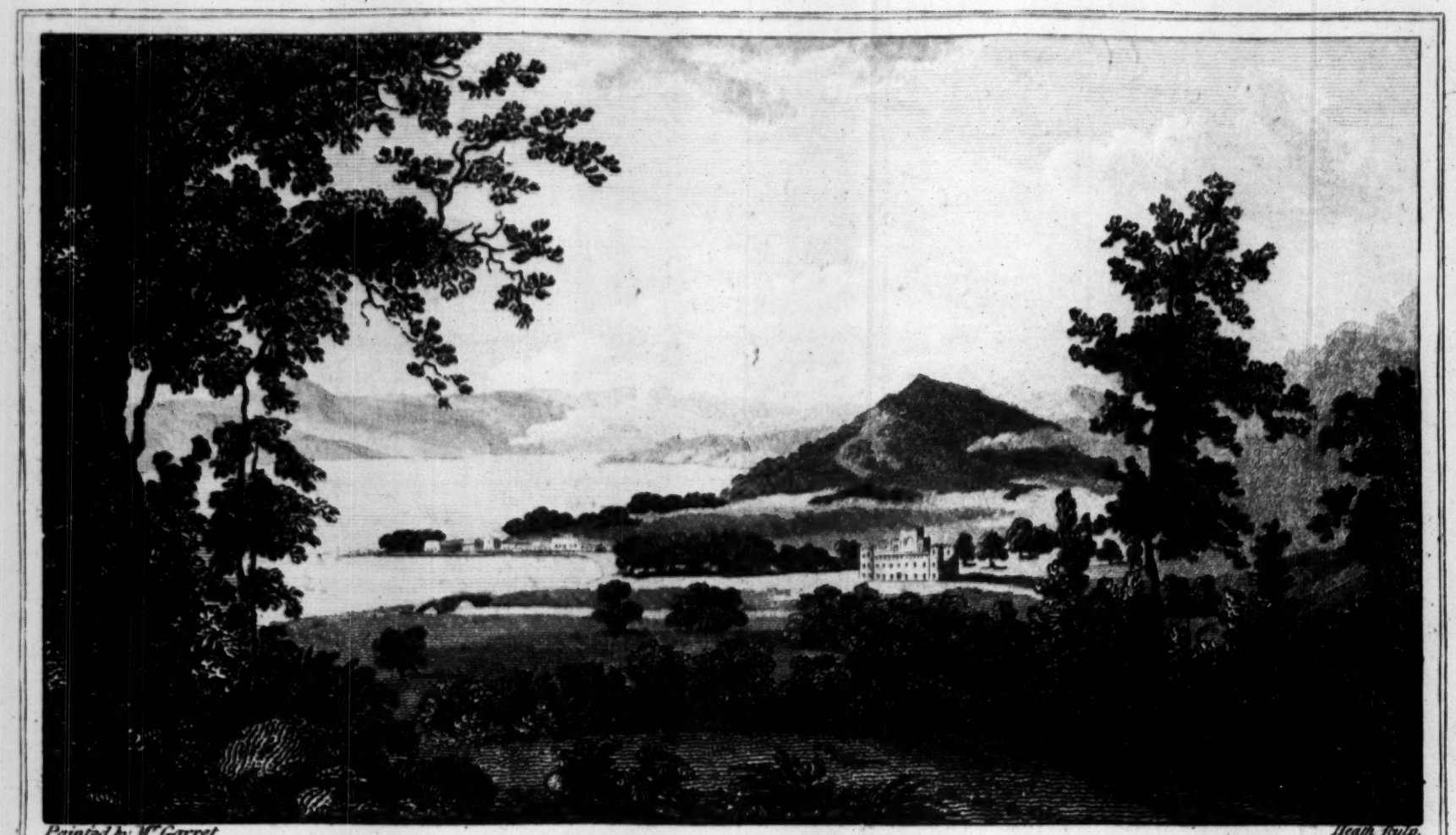
we paſſed through the narrow glen between them, a thick fog rendered this gloomy avenue, at all times aweful, now ſtill more dreadful. At the end of Glencroe there is an hill which terminates it, on the ſummit of which is a ſtone, with the following inſcription: "Reſt and be thankful." This road was made by the 23d regiment, and coſt them not a little labour to accompliſh it. From thence, I ſuppoſe, aroſe the inſcription; for to the traveller, and even to a carriage, it is neither long nor difficult. From the point of this hill you look down on a ſmall lake, paſſing by the ſide of which you enter into another glen, which is much wider at the bottom, and from the edges or extremities of which, the mountains riſe with a gradual ſlope, and afford very good paſture for ſheep. This glen reaches, by an extent of four miles, all the way to Cairndow, a ſmall village on the north-eaſt ſide of Loch-Fine, which, like Loch-Long, is an arm of the ſea, where the tide riſes about ſix feet. Near this place is a ſmall houſe, belonging to a Mr. Campbell, with a tolerable plantation about it. Dine at Cairndow, a very indifferent inn, and, in the afternoon, paſs on, round the north end of the loch, to Inverary. This is a ride of eleven miles, and very pleaſant, the road which runs along the ſide of the Loch being very good, and the adjacent mountains well covered with wood.

Inverary and Loch-Fine. In Loch-Fine there are no iſlands. The mountains on each ſide are ſo very high, that they are

in general covered with clouds. At their baſes, near the water, there is a good deal of underwood; and, in ſome ſpots, the land is flat enough to admit of corn, and graſs for hay. There is a great quantity of ſea-weed thrown on the beach, which makes good manure, and is applied to that purpoſe. By theſe means, good crops are produced; but ſo much rain falls, that the poor cottager ſeldom reaps the fruits of his labour. The culture of potatoes here, as in every part of the country, is an object of great care and attention, and anſwers very well. But the corn, after it is ſown, is greatly neglected, and ſuffered to be choaked up with weeds, while numbers of people are walking about perfectly idle.

This arm of the ſea produces herrings in great abundance, cod, haddocks, whitings, and various other kinds of fiſh. Five hundred boats are employed in the proper ſeaſon for fiſhing, and are, for the moſt part, ſo fortunate as to take a conſiderable quantity of herrings; part of which are ſalted for the uſe of the neighbouring country, and part ſent to Glaſgow for exportation. This fiſhing might certainly be increaſed, and become a ſource of great profit to individuals, as well as general advantage to the nation.

The Duke of Argyle's caſtle ſtands very pleaſantly, conſidering the mountainous country in which it is ſituated. It forms a ſquare with four circular turrets. One ſtory is ſunk



Painted by M.r Garret. Heath. Sculp.

View of the TOWN & CASTLE *of Inveraray, taken from the foot of the Hill call'd Dunacquaich.*

Publish'd as the Act directs June 2.1788, by G.Robinson & Partners.

ſunk below the ſurface of the ground: and, round this, there is a large area ſurrounded by iron rails. The caſtle has a very monaſtic appearance: though lately built, the windows of it are all turned with a Gothic arch; and it has a ſuperſtructure intended to give light to the central part of the houſe, which has rather a heavy appearance on the outſide, and is by no means pleaſing within. There are many good rooms in the houſe, but none very large. Some of them are elegantly furniſhed, and the ceilings beautifully painted and gilded. Several of them are not yet finiſhed. Though there are no hiſtorical pictures, we meet with ſome excellent portraits here, among which we contemplate the images of thoſe patriots and heroes, the ſplendour of whoſe actions has raiſed the family of Argle, even in an enlightened and warlike nation, to diſtinguiſhed celebrity and eminence. The woods around are very extenſive, and thoſe near the houſe planted with a good deal of taſte. The trees, many of which bear marks of high antiquity, are chiefly beech: there are alſo ſome oaks, cheſnuts, and aſh, with a few others. About 300 acres of land, clear of wood, is laid down chiefly for hay and grazing land: very little of it is applied to the purpoſe of raiſing corn; which, if we may judge from the Duke's having a large ſtructure in his park for the purpoſe of drying grain, the quantity of rain that falls being ſo great as to render this neceſſary, would be a very arduous attempt. Though the land around In-

verary riſes every way into mountains, it has the advantage of flat ground to the extent of about 1200 acres.

Two rivers diſcharge themſelves into Loch-Fine, the one near the Duke's houſe, the other about a mile diſtant, over each of which there is an handſome bridge. On the top of an hill called Dunaquaich, which is 870 feet high, there ſtands a ſquare building by way of a ſummer-houſe, with two windows in it. From this lofty eminence you have a very extenſive view of Loch-Fine and all the neighbouring mountains, and a bird's eye proſpect of the caſtle and all the plantations. The hill is chiefly planted with fir and birch. The trees, at the bottom of the hill, are very large; they gradually become leſs as you aſcend; and near the top they are reduced to bruſh-wood. There is a tolerable road to the top of this hill, for horſes, and, in different directions from the caſtle, you may ride through beautiful plantations for ſeveral miles. About half a mile from the houſe is the garden, which comprehends near ſeven acres of ground. It has a very large hot-houſe and ſome hot walls. Cherries, and other common fruits, ſeem to thrive very well. Near this garden is a large building, erected with ſome taſte, for cattle in winter, cart-houſes, &c. and a number of dwelling-houſes for the ſervants employed in huſbandry. About the diſtance of a mile from this is another building, on an eminence, which has a very neat appearance, called the Duke's Dairy.

The

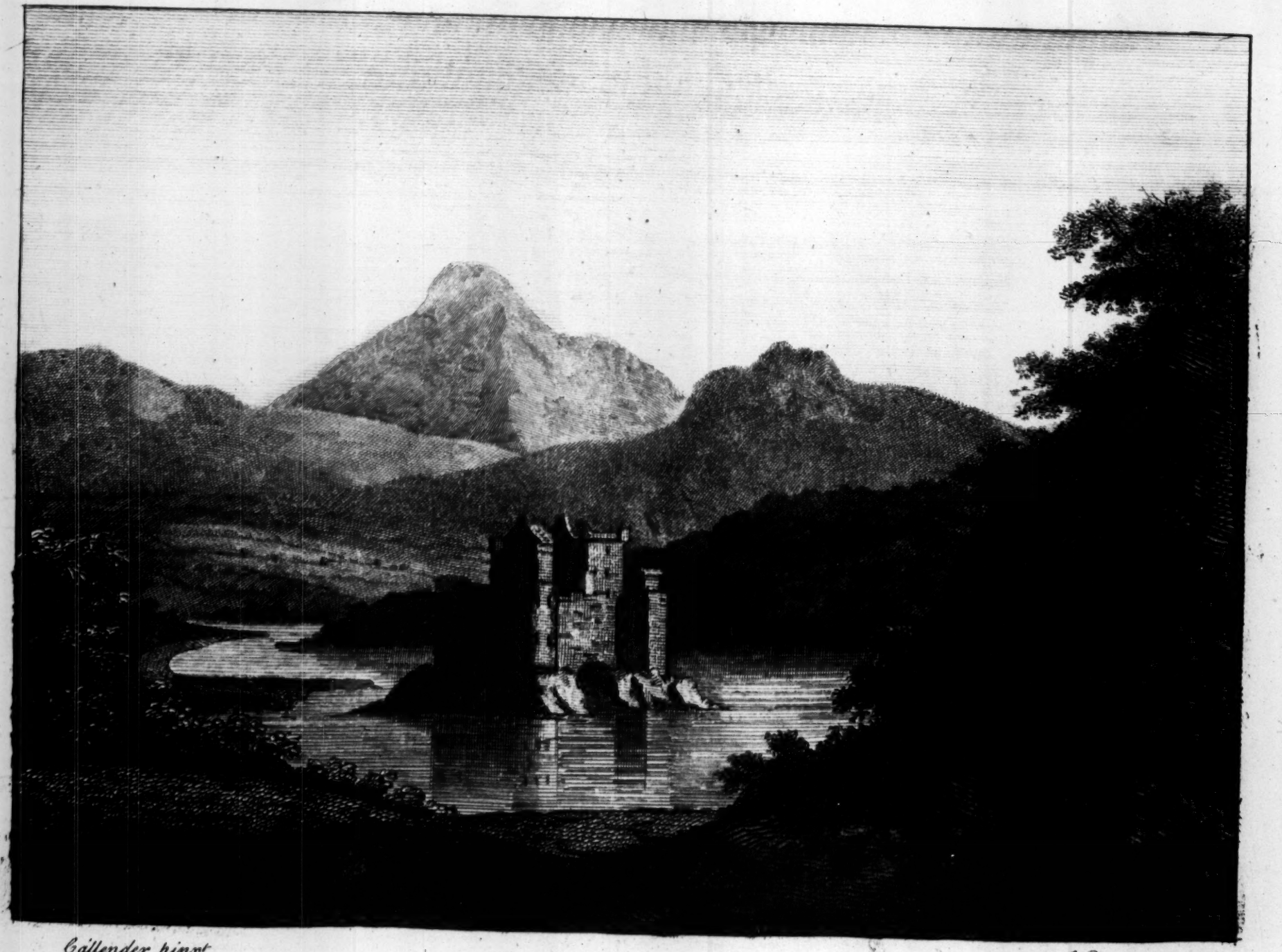
The town or village of Inverary is about half a mile from the caſtle, ſituated on a point of land that runs into the loch. It conſiſts of about 200 houſes, many of which, though ſmall, are neatly built. The people are chiefly employed in fiſhing, which ſometimes employs near 1,000 people. Although the herring be indeed a whimſical, as well as migrating animal, I muſt here contradict the report of the herrings having, in a great meaſure, forſaken Loch-Fine, and gone to other parts of the Scottiſh coaſt. About three miles from Inverary, there is a woollen manufactory for cloth and carpets. The perſon who eſtabliſhed it failed; but the buſineſs is now conducted by another man, who has met with ſome ſucceſs. Coals are nearly as dear here as in London, on account of the additional duty, which is a moſt impolitic impoſition, and operates greatly againſt all manufactures. The price of labour at Inverary is from tenpence to one ſhilling a day. On the whole, the general appearance of the caſtle, town, and environs of Inverary, is ſuch as beſeems the head of a great clan in a ſtrong and mountainous country, who, without loſing ſight of the origin of his family in rude and warlike times, adopts the improvements of the preſent period.

Wedneſday, July 6th. Leave Inverary. After getting out of the Duke of Argyle's woods, which extend three miles from his houſe up the river, the road is quite open and dreary, paſſing over a number of inferior hills, ſurrounded

rounded by mountains, and unenlivened by the ſight of a ſingle tree or ſhrub. In the intervening bottoms or flats, ſome attempts are here and there viſible at cultivation, of which they appear to be abundantly capable.

About eight miles from Inverary, fall in at Cladich with Loch-Awe, of which we have a beautiful view. On this part of the loch there are eight iſlands, ſome covered with verdure, ſome with wood, and others, which are rocky, with large fir-trees. Here alſo the loch is finely indented by promontories, advancing and ſpreading into it a great way, and joined to the main land only by a narrow iſthmus. Theſe, with the iſlands, form a proſpect highly variegated and pleaſant. On the eaſt ſide of the loch there is a great deal of land fit for corn, and ſome of it is applied to that purpoſe: but what ſeems beſt adapted to the genius of the people, is grazing. A great number of black cattle are reared here, and a ſtill greater number of ſheep. On the ſide of the loch ſtands a well-built modern houſe, called Hay-field. This houſe formerly belonged to a Mr. Campbell, who had a caſtle upon one of the iſlands, the ruins of which are ſtill perceptible. At the north end of the loch there is a large caſtle, belonging to the Earl of Breadalbane, now falling to ruin. This, in barbarous times, was the antient den or ſtrong-hold of the family, from which they iſſued forth, at the head of their retainers, like the princes and heroes of Homer, and like thoſe of all uncivilized times and countries,

to



Callender pinxt *T. Philips, sculpt*

The ANCIENT SEAT of the EARLS of BREADALBANE

to commit occaſional depredations on their neighbours. The preſent poſſeſſor has the happineſs to live in a milder age, and one more ſuited to the natural benignity of his diſpoſition. The ſculking place of his remote anceſtors is abandoned. The Earl of Breadalbane, following the example of his noble predeceſſor, while he opens his eyes and his fortune to the general good of every part of the country, exerciſes an elegant hoſpitality in his charming reſidence at Loch-Tay, in Perthſhire, which ſhews how much the beauty and magnificence of nature may ſtill be improved by art and cultivated taſte.

In the vicinity of Loch-Awe, the moſt antient patrimony of the family of Breadalbane, they now poſſeſs a country near thirty miles in extent. The preſent Lord Breadalbane has let out his land, at the upper part of the lake, on long leaſes, on which the tenants are building comfortable houſes. This muſt be productive of much good to the landlord, his tenants, and the country at large: for, by making it the intereſt of thoſe people to cultivate and improve the land, they will be induſtrious, the landlord will be more certain of his rent, and the country at large will be benefited by an increaſe of population. There are a great many inhabitants about this loch now; but their numbers, by well directed induſtry, might eaſily be trebled.

Suppoſe that every ſubſtantial farmer, eſpecially thoſe who

who had given proofs of their ſteadineſs, activity, and knowledge in agriculture, were allowed a leaſe for fifteen or twenty years certain, or even for life, ſhould they out-live that period: this would not only attach the preſent tenants to their reſpective farms, but even their ſons or ſucceſſors alſo. For truſting, no doubt, that they ſhould have the like favours ſhown them in their turn, if they were equally deſerving, they never would think of migrating to foreign countries upon ideal ſchemes, while they could have the proſpect of a certain ſubſiſtence at home.

It is unneceſſary here to inſiſt on the advantages of leaſes for life, both to the landlord and to the tenant. The beneficial effects ariſing from ſtimulated induſtry to the former, are evident: nor can it be reaſonably ſuppoſed that the latter will ever pretend to calculate the limits of his own life, or be thereby induced to abate in his induſtry or attention: neither will he, even in his old age, attempt to impoveriſh his farm, in order to make a little more money in the few years he may think of living, as he cannot carry this money with him to the grave.

The Count Bernſtoff, Prime Miniſter of Denmark, has exhibited an example worthy of the imitation of Europe. He has not only emancipated the predial bondſmen on his large eſtate, but has granted to the farmers perpetual leaſes, a fair riſe of rent being ſtipulated in proportion to the increaſed

creaſed value of the produce of their farms. The Crown Lands of Denmark, and, now alſo of Sweden, are let on ſimilar terms. Nothing can be imagined more conducive than this to induſtry, population, and national wealth.

Dalmally, pleaſantly ſituated on a large river, that has its ſource in the Black Mount, near the north end of Loch-Awe, into which it falls, is a large ſtraggling village. The miniſter has a tolerable houſe, and an income of 100l. beſides a glebe of about forty acres, of pretty good land. The inn here, which is kept by one Hiſlop, is a very good one. Labour in this country is from ten-pence to one ſhilling a day. In a neighbouring mountain, called Ben Chruachan, there is a lead mine, which they have juſt begun to work, and met with very good ſucceſs. The miners of Benchruachan have taxed themſelves in a moiety of their wages for the purchaſe of books, and the gradual eſtabliſhment of a library, for their amuſement in this ſequeſtered ſituation. This fact is ſtrongly deſcriptive of the ſpeculating and literary turn of the Scots.

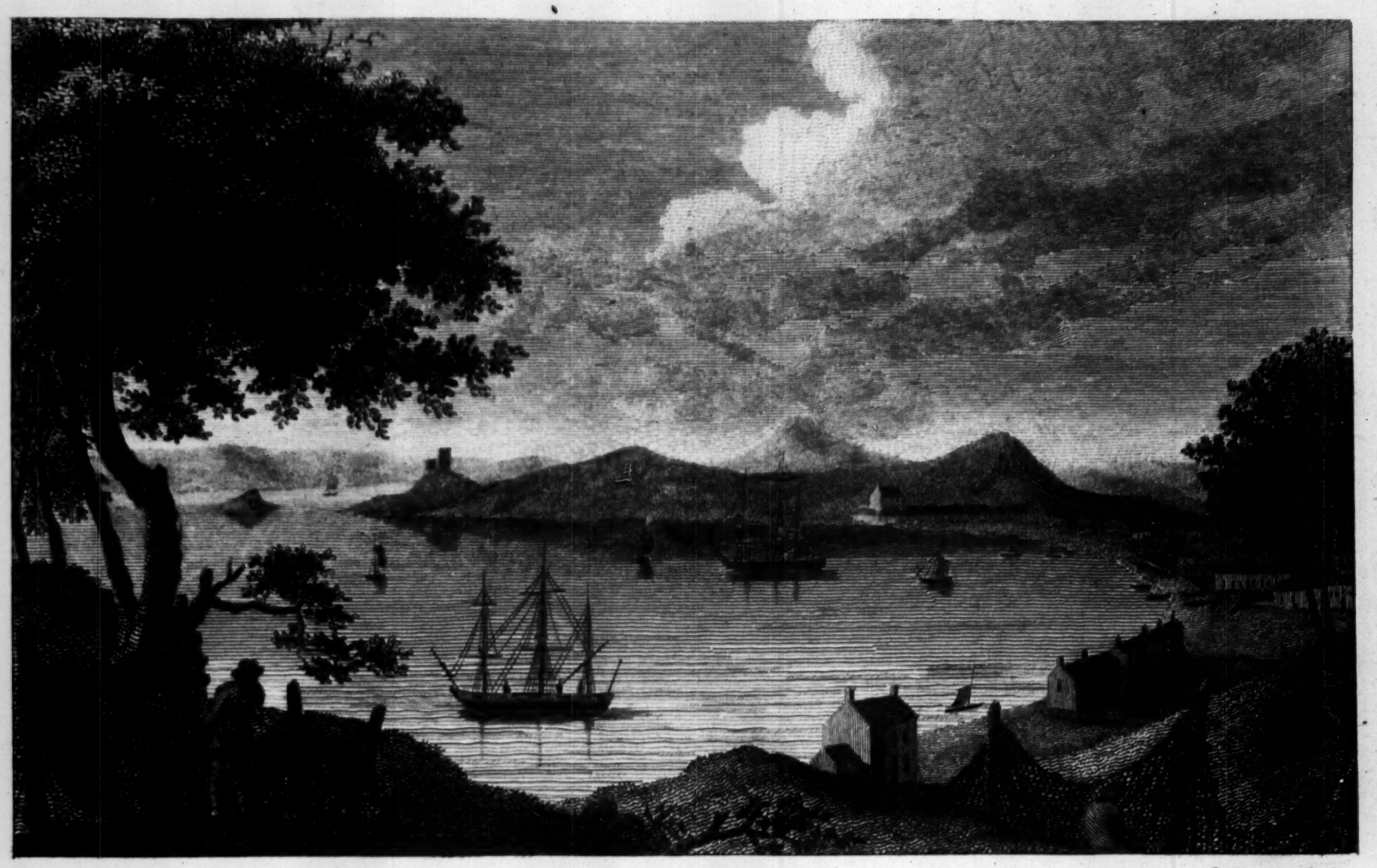
Thurſday, July 7th. Leave Dalmally, and proceed towards Oban. From Dalmally to Bun-Awe the road winds round the end of Loch-Awe, on the ſide of a mountain, covered for the moſt part with trees. From the road, the deſcent to the water, which is a thouſand feet, is, in moſt places, nearly perpendicular. Yet, there is not any parapet wall on the ſide towards the loch, to prevent your falling

over, which makes it exceedingly dangerous for carriages, or even for horſes, if they are not very quiet. This road extends near eight miles, when a river runs out of the loch, of moſt aſtoniſhing rapidity, roaring through rocks and looſe ſtones, till it loſes itſelf in an arm of the ſea, known by the name of Loch-Etive, at the upper end of which Bun-Awe is ſituated. Here the Furneſs Company have a houſe and place for making charcoal: for which purpoſe they have purchaſed a great quantity of the neighbouring woods. Above this place, is the high mountain before-mentioned, Ben Chruachan.

From Bun-Awe, the road bends a little inward into the country, from Loch-Etive, paſſing over a number of ſmall hills, which have been covered with oak and birch, though the wood is now moſtly cut down for the purpoſe of making charcoal. Among theſe hills, as in a great many other places in Scotland, you frequently diſcover the ſtumps of large trees, which prove, that very large timber has grown here formerly, and are ſo many incentives to the gentlemen of Scotland to make plantations of foreſt trees, ſince what has flouriſhed in one period, may alſo flouriſh in another. The land here-about belongs chiefly to Campbell of Lochnell. The Furneſs Company have an iron-work in this neighbourhood.

Friday, July 8th. Arrive at Oban, and put up at the only public houſe there, which is one of the very worſt kind.

There



A. Grant del.

Heath sculpt.

OBAN BAY in ARGYLESHIRE.

There are but two or three tolerable houſes in this village: but they have a few boats chiefly intended for the herring fiſhery. Two brothers of the name of Stevenſon, are the only men of enterprize in the place. They have built ſeveral veſſels from 100 to 150 tons, which they employ in the coaſting trade: and I find their exertions are attended with ſucceſs.

Such is the preſent ſituation of the ſpot which, in time, may probably become the principal mart on the weſt coaſt of Scotland.

The Author of theſe Obſervations has no private ends to ſerve in recommending one place in preference to another, as proper ſituations for planting the ſeeds, as it were, of induſtry. Neither does he mean to inſinuate, that ſums of the public money, or money raiſed by the joint ſubſcriptions of ſpirited and patriotic individuals, ſhould, according to the magnificent and expenſive plans of certain ideal projectors, be laid out on the rearing of cities in that diſtant corner of the kingdom. Theſe are undoubtedly much wanted: but they are to be raiſed, as moſt great cities have been, from ſmall beginnings, by natural and ſlow degrees, not forced into maturity by art and expence. It ſeldom happens that there is a DIDO, who is able, all on a ſudden, to build a CARTHAGE.——

—The Author is not partial to any particular place, or any particular planof raiſing cities or towns: but, as ſome place muſt be choſen for the firſt efforts, and the center of induſtry, he will here take the liberty to mention, that a preference to all the commodious ſtations on the Weſt Coaſt of Scotland, appears to be due to the harbour of Oban, in Argyleſhire. It has good anchorage, and ſufficient depth of water for veſſels of any ſize. It is well ſheltered by Kerrera; and the road-ſted between that iſland and the main is capable of containing a very conſiderable number of ſhips. The communication inland is already very extenſive. Even the largeſt veſſels can penetrate as far as Fort-William in in Lochaber. And, ſhould the ſhort canal at Loch-Crinan, which has been long in contemplation, be at laſt carried into execution, ſmall veſſels could then go to Greenock, or even to Glaſgow, almoſt with one fair wind. The communication ſouthward with Ireland, and the Weſt Coaſt of England, is ſtill more direct: and northward, by the Sound of Mull, there is eaſy acceſs to the fiſhing grounds, and the great reſorts of the herrings. Oban, therefore, under the foſtering hand of the Duke of Argyle, and the numerous Gentlemen of the name of Campbell in that country, may no doubt, ſoon riſe to importance. Government, about thirty years ago, found it neceſſary to remove the Cuſtom-houſe from Fort-William to Oban: nor could it be more advantageouſly ſituated for the whole of that part of the coaſt; though, for the convenience of the fiſheries, a deputation

tation from that, or ſome of the other eſtabliſhed Cuſtom-houſes, may now be neceſſary for the extended ſtations in the iſlands, as well as on the main land.

Whoever has travelled over the weſtern part of Scotland, and viewed the various lochs, and arms of the ſea, muſt naturally reflect on the great advantages which the inhabitants, and the nation at large, may derive from a wiſe and liberal encouragement to promote the increaſe of the fiſheries on that coaſt, more eſpecially when it is conſidered, that thouſands of the natives of that country have very little employment. While my mind was impreſſed with thoſe ideas, the following plan ſtruck me as feaſible, at leaſt in the preſent infancy of the fiſheries, being the moſt likely to encourage induſtry, and to be attended with the leaſt expence.

Let an application be made to Government, for a certain number of old fifty gun ſhips, or let any other large and commodious ſhips, ſuch as old Eaſt-Indiamen, be purchaſed, which they may be for a ſmall ſum of money, and let them be ſent round, and moored in ſafe ſituations in the different lochs.

Let Government have the controul of thoſe ſhips, by placing ſome intelligent maſters of men of war, or other officers to command them, with ten or fifteen ſeamen, accuſtomed to fiſhing, in each of them.

The

The ſhips to be jury rigged: that is, to have ſmaller maſts, yards, and rigging, than would be required for actual ſervice. The rigging of the veſſels is propoſed for thepurpoſe of exerciſing the young men who chuſe to engage in the fiſhery, in the practical art of ſeamanſhip.

The young men who chuſe thus to engage, ſhall make theſe their habitations for a certain time of the year, and be ſubject to the orders of the maſters of the ſhips.

A certain number of boats and nets to be found by the ſociety, who are to ſupport the undertaking.

Four ſkilful fiſhermen, and four boys, to be employed in each boat.

The boys to be bound apprentices to the ſociety for a certain number of years.

After the expiration of their apprenticeſhip, the ſociety, or Government, to provide a boat with nets, for every ſix young men.

And from this time the boat to be conſidered as their own, for the benefit of themſelves and families.

A bounty to be given in proportion to the quantity of fiſh which each boat takes.

Each

Each ſhip to have one hundred or more apprentices, to be found in cloaths, bedding, and proviſions, by the ſociety, until their time of apprenticeſhip expires.

The fiſh to be ſalted on board the ſhips, or in any convenient ſpot on the adjacent ſhore, and kept on board till veſſels arrive to carry them to the different markets.

An emulation between the fiſhing veſſels would be heightened, if different ſhips were manned, and drew their apprentices from different clans: and, that the whole might be cheered and animated to induſtry, and new adventurers allured from land, each ſhip might be allowed a ſmall band of their national muſic.

If the Highland fiſhermen are ſuffered to paſs the greater part of their time, with their families, on ſhore, the notions, cuſtoms, and habits of their former life will continue to govern them; on every occaſion they will be ready to relapſe into indolence; nor will they ever purſue the laborious trade of fiſhing, but when driven to it, by the preſſure of neceſſity. Fix them in veſſels cruizing about on the ocean, you wean them from the ſhore, enure them to habits of fiſhing, and accuſtom them to the life, and labours of ſeamen.

A cod-bank has been diſcovered by Captain Huddart, extending

tending from the Long Iſland, in the Hebrides, which iſland is 100 miles in length from ſouth to north, as far weſt and north as the Captain thought it neceſſary, for the purpoſe of his miſſion, to make an excurſion. The plan propoſed ſeems calculated to enable the Britiſh nation to avail itſelf of this inexhauſtible ſource of induſtry, population, wealth, and naval power: and, in a ſhort time, it might be extended to the building of large veſſels, for the purpoſe of taking cod-fiſh on the bank juſt mentioned, which, I am informed, are as good, if not better, than thoſe caught on the Banks of Newfoundland.

The herrings come, now to one loch, and now to another, and ſometimes they are not found in any of their uſual reſorts whatever: but at all times in the ſeaſon, they are found on the weſt coaſt in ſome place or other; and in all their excurſions or routes, the larger veſſels might follow them, and render the fiſhery more certain and productive.

Fiſhermen ſhould be invited and encouraged to come to Scotland from Norway, Holland, and Yarmouth in England, to teach the Highlanders to fiſh in the open ſea.

A great *deſideratum* in the fiſhery, is, how to announce, in due time, the appearance of the herrings on the different coaſts, and in the different bays: and, for this end, various expedients have been thought of, all of them attended with great expence, and none of them againſt which

there

there does not lie ſome material objection; as ſignals by fire, expreſſes by land and water, &c. It is found, too, that the fiſhers on the coaſts where the herrings firſt make their appearance, are very ſhy, and unwilling to communicate intelligence of this, and, for their own advantage, keep the ſecret as long as poſſible. By the plan propoſed, not only might the new fiſhing veſſels, by conſtantly cruizing about, diſcover, at an early period, the routes and haunts of the herrings, but it might be made a part of their buſineſs to circulate information of theſe among the inhabitants of the Iſles and weſtern coaſts of the mainland of Scotland. Again, by the preſent mode of fiſhing only on the coaſt, in creeks, and bays, the lochs in which the herrings are found are extremely crowded by buſſes from all quarters; great confuſion and quarrelling ariſes; the buoys and nets of the different boats are entangled, and drag and deſtroy one another, and the herrings are ſometimes frightened out of the lochs. Four Fiſhing Bailiffs are appointed, indeed, for the purpoſe of keeping good order among the fiſhers. But theſe officers are rather nominal than effective. Their annual allowance is no more than 34l. out of which ſum they have to furniſh both veſſels and men. But, as this allowance is by far too ſmall, the interference of the Fiſhing-Bailiffs is diſregarded and derided, and conſidered as a mere farce. All theſe inconveniencies would be obviated by the authority and regularity of the great ſhips, according to the plan propoſed.

Regulations ſhould be fixed for the commencement of the herring fiſhing. Not only the preciſe day for beginning the fiſhing ſhould be aſcertained, but the preciſe hour of each day, during the whole time of its continuance. This would prevent the premature and pernicious paddling and tampering of the country people, who often frighten away the fiſh before they be well ſettled in a loch.

With regard to the details neceſſary for carrying theſe ideas into execution, theſe muſt be left to the gentlemen who, to juſt and extended views on the ſubject of the fiſheries, add the advantage of local knowledge. I ſhould think, however, that the floating ſtations here recommended ought to be divided in ſuch a manner as to unite, as much as poſſible, attention to particular diſtricts, with regard to the improvement of the fiſheries, and the general intereſts of the country. One veſſel, for example, might be ſtationed at Tobermore, in Mull, or Oban, in the country of the Campbells: a ſecond off Ullapool, the country of the Mackenzies: a third off Lochbuy, in the country of the Macleans: a fourth in Cannay, the country of the Macdonalds: a fifth at Steen, in the Iſle of Sky, the country of the Macleods: a ſixth among the Sutherlands, Mackays, and Raes; and ſo on. Such an arrangement would contribute to foſter that ſpirit of emulation on which I have already touched, and which might prevail among the different floating ſtations, as well as among different Highland regiments.

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The only poſſible objection to this plan, is, that it would be attended, eſpecially at the out-ſet, with expence. In order to lighten this, let application be made to Government for a certain number of hands from the ſhips of war. In times of peace, they would be uſefully employed, without loſing, but on the contrary, ſtrengthening and confirming their hardineſs, ſkill, and dexterity, in all maritime affairs, and in training up a new race of ſeamen: in times of war, they might return, reinforced by their naval apprentices, to their reſpective ſhips. Why might not our ſeamen be thus employed in peaceable times, with as much propriety as ſoldiers in the conſtruction of fortifications and roads?

It is ſomewhat odd, and it is much to be regretted, that there is not, on the whole Weſt Coaſt of Scotland what is called a Public Dock-Yard. A Dock-Yard at Oban, or ſome other convenient place, would excite naval ideas and purſuits, nouriſh the infant fiſheries, and co-operate with theſe to encreaſe the wealth and maritime power of Britain. But there are other conſiderations that ought to recommend Oban as a fit place for an Arſenal and Dock-yard. Within about one league of Oban the whole trade paſſes from Archangel, Norway, the Baltic, and the Weſtern Coaſt of Britain, and the whole of Ireland. In times of war, tranſports and other veſſels might be fitted out at this ſta-

tion, with great ſafety and expedition. If a dock-yard were conſtructed far to the Northward of Oban, there would be found many difficulties, ariſing from winds and currents, both of ingreſs and egreſs: but Oban, ſheltered and protected by the land, while it communicates in ſo many quarters with the ſea, is acceſſible at all times and ſeaſons, and from thence tranſports, frigates, and other ſhips of war, may eaſily ſail round the North of Ireland, into the great ocean that divides and unites the different quarters of the world. For the benefit of the Fiſheries, public wharfs, ſtore-houſes, and curing-houſes, ſhould be conſtructed upon a moderate ſcale at firſt; but upon ſuch a plan, that they may be enlarged as exigencies may require. The towns or villages ſhould be laid out in like manner: that is, a number of houſes, proportional to immediate demands, may be built, in the firſt inſtance; and the buildings may be continued on the ſame plan, as the inhabitants increaſe, afterwards. It would, perhaps, tend to the benefit of the Highlands and Iſlands of Scotland, if the Members of the Britiſh Fiſhery Society were divided into Subſcribers for particular Stations; and theſe to be conſidered as branches of a Joint-Stock Company, ſimilar to that of the Northumberland Fiſhing Company. But certain it is, that if the inſtitutions of the Britiſh Society be confined to the ſole purpoſe of building towns, even if they could induce

duce any number of people to become inhabitants, they would contribute but little to the promotion of their principal object. For what could a number of poor people do, who have neither veſſels, boats, nets, hooks, lines, ſalt, caſks, nor any other implements for carrying on the fiſhery? Who have neither money to purchaſe ſuch materials, nor to maintain themſelves and their families till they can earn a ſubſiſtence in this way of life? Thoſe miſerable beings muſt either ſtarve, or become beggars, and wander to the Low Country, or to any other part of the world, as want and deſpair might induce them. But it is no inconſiderable encouragement, that the Society have taken care to find, for every ſuch ſtation or eſtabliſhment, one or more proper and reſponſible perſons, who, being admitted as tenants of the Society's wharfs, ſtore-houſes, &c. at a moderate rent, engage to have, at every fiſhing ſtation, an abundant ſupply of all the implements and neceſſaries for the fiſhery, on every occaſion, and that theſe may be purchaſed by the fiſhermen at reaſonable rates.

Since the publication of the firſt Edition of this Tour, I have been informed of a ſmall fiſhing ſtation being erected on Loch-Torridon, an excellent harbour upon the weſt coaſt of Roſsſhire, oppoſite to the Iſle of Sky. In point of communication with the Eaſt coaſt, it has conſiderable advantages; for, from Dingwall on the great bay of Cromarty to Torridon, the diſtance is under fifty miles, and the road,

road, at preſent, paſſable enough for either horſe or foot. But, in a very ſhort time it is to be made, at the public expence, ſufficient for wheel carriages of every kind, even for waggons: which, to that part of the country, in its preſent ſituation, will prove an advantage little inferior to a canal navigation for boats only. The communication from the Clyde to Oban, by the intended Crinan Canal, has already been mentioned. Now, if a conveyance were eſtabliſhed from Oban, by Tobermore, to Canna and the other Iſles, to the South of Sky, than which nothing is more practicable and eaſy; and one from Torridon to Steen, and ſuch other fiſhing ſtations as may be judged neceſſary on the North of Sky; and, on the whole, communications gradually opened and extended from the center to the extremities of the kingdom, I have not a doubt, that this facilitation of conveyance would contribute much to the improvements in the northern parts of the iſland. Roads, formed at the public expence, have been already carried as far as Inverneſs and Dingwall. It has lately been wiſely determined by Government, that public roads ſhall diverge from thence to Ullapool, and Loch-Ewe, as well as Loch-Torridon, and to other places on the North Weſt of Scotland.

I have already ventured to propoſe floating ſtations for the Scottiſh fiſheries, and the Dutch have ſhewn us that theſe are not impracticable. But, I have likewiſe mentioned, that the fiſh may be ſalted and cured, either on board the

the ſhips, or in any convenient place on ſhore: and nothing can come nearer to my ideas on that ſubject, than the little Fiſhing-Station, as it has been deſcribed to me, at Torridon.

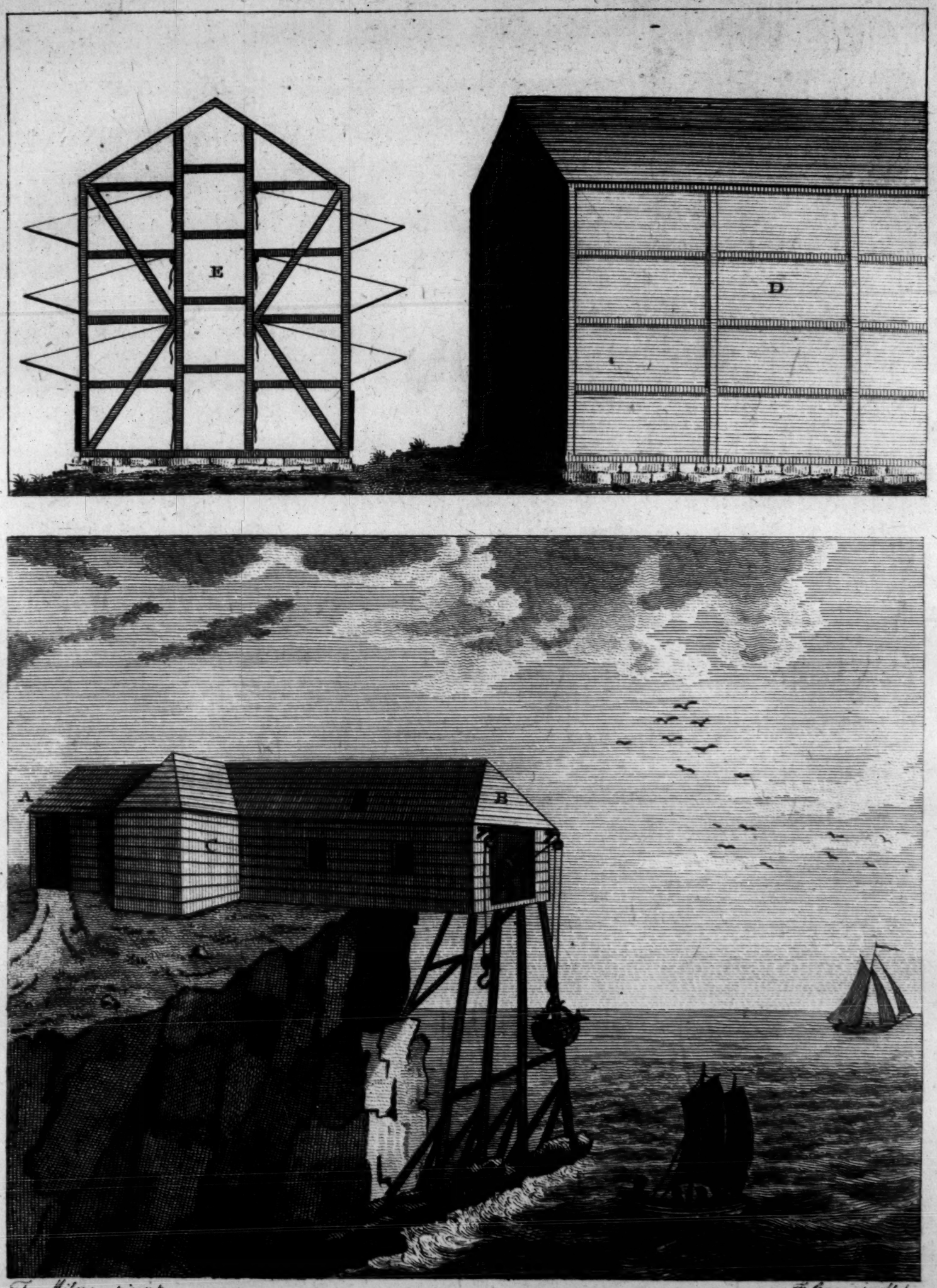
Upon a point of land, between two ſmall harbours, on the South ſide of that lake, where ſome hundreds of the largeſt ſhips might ride in conſtant ſafety, Mr. Mackenzie, the proprietor, has erected a ſtage and wharf of eighty feet long by twenty broad, projecting about eighteen feet over a ſolid rock, which riſes about ſeven feet above the high water mark. Any veſſel, not exceeding fourteen feet draught of water, can come cloſe to this wharf, which is covered: ſo that, upon the arrival of the veſſels, even in the moſt unfavourable weather, the fiſh can there be ſplit and cleaned immediately.

Contiguous to the ſide of this ſtage is the ſalt-houſe, twenty feet ſquare, well covered with ſlate: and, from the door of this houſe, to the oppoſite end of the ſtage, about forty feet, there is room enough for the cooper and curer to perform their operations all under cover. When the herrings are then, for the firſt time, put in barrels, and the great fiſh, cod and ling, are ſplit and ſalted, they are moved to another houſe at no great diſtance. This houſe is twenty feet broad, from eighty to ninety long, and twenty feet high. The ſide walls, which are at preſent entirely of wood,

wood, are divided into pannels, each of which is covered from top to bottom with boards, in ſuch a manner as admits of the whole being eaſily laid open to the air; and, ſhould it happen to rain, for the weather in that country is exceedingly changeable, either one, or both ſides of the houſe can be immediately ſhut. But the conſtruction of theſe houſes, which, on account of their convenience and ſimplicity, appear to be uſeful models of imitation, will be beſt underſtood from the accompanying ſection and perſpective view. A B repreſents the ſtage or wharf, the roof of which, being pretty high, is, at times, convenient for hanging up the nets and lines to dry. C is the ſalt-houſe. The whole height of the curing-houſe, part of which is repreſented by D, is divided into five ſtories by four pair of wooden gratings, which run from end to end of the houſe. Each of the grates, being ſeven or eight feet in breadth, leaves a ſpace between them, where, with the aſſiſtance of moveable ſtep-ladders, they can, with the greateſt eaſe and convenience, ſpread the fiſh, and turn them when neceſſary.

On the ground floor the herring-barrels are ſtowed in rows, which neither prevents acceſs to, nor the uſe of the gratings above, where they can ſpread more than 3,000 cod or ling at a time. E is a ſection of the curing-houſe. There is another wooden houſe at Torridon, very near to the wharf, of twenty feet ſquare, which ſerves at preſent for a granary or *girnal*, as they pronounce it, for their oat-

meal,



T. Milne pinxt

F. Cary sculpt.

View of Buildings erected on LOCH TORRIDON

meal, as well as meal, or flower of barley, and of peas. This important repoſitory, for ſeveral reaſons, ſhould, I think, be incloſed within ſtone walls, without delay. I would alſo beg leave to obſerve, with regard to the other wooden buildings at Torridon, that before they decay, as they no doubt will in time, the ſtage, at leaſt all that 50 or 60 feet of it which is built upon the flat rock, ſhould be incloſed with walls of ſtone and lime, and covered, as the ſalt-houſe alſo is, with ſlate. The other part, which projects over the rock, might be thatched with heath, and well ſupported, from time to time, from below: all which could be done at a very moderate expence. Every ſecond pannel of the curing-houſe alſo, might, in my opinion, be built in the ſame manner as the ſtage, without preventing the circulation of air neceſſary for dryihg the fiſh. And the whole ſhould be covered either with ſlate or heath, as may be found moſt convenient. By theſe means, thoſe buildings might be made to laſt for ages. The other houſes that have been lately built on this ſtation, whether intended for ſtores, or the accommodation of the agent, the cooper, the curer, &c. are all built of ſtone and lime, of which there is great plenty all around Loch-Torridon, and covered either with heath or ſlate, which is ſurely the moſt durable, and in the end, the moſt profitable mode of building in that part of the country. If this fiſhing ſtation be as well ſupported and conducted as it has been ingeniouſly contrived, it is not improbable that the fiſh cured at Torridon, as has already,

it ſeems, been predicted from ſome ſpecimens, will ſoon have the firſt character of any cured in Scotland, or poſſibly, in Great Britain.

On the ſubject of improving the Scottiſh fiſheries, it is irreſiſtible to animadvert on the moſt impolitic reſtraints that have been laid, in times leſs enlightened than the preſent, on the manufacture of ſalt in Scotland, and the carriage of coals from one place to another in that country, with which the manufacture of ſalt is intimately connected. With regard to the tax on coals, there is, indeed, the leſs room for complaint, on the part of the Scots, that a hint was thrown out by Miniſtry, ſome years ago, in the Houſe of Commons, which ought on that head to have ſatisfied them, and made them quite eaſy. It was obſerved by a gentleman well known to poſſeſs the entire confidence of Mr. Pitt, that the inland coal-tax, which, for the extent of coaſt on which it operated, amounted to a mere trifle, might be redeemed for an equal ſum to Government, to be raiſed either by a ſmall and almoſt imperceptible extenſion of the land-tax, or by any other mode that the land-holders of Scotland might moſt approve. This fair offer was wholly neglected by the Scottiſh Members of Parliament, whoſe patriotiſm, it would appear, is more readily diſplayed in applications for public bounty, than in the impoſition, or even commutation of taxes, for the execution of projects; in which the genius of the country, it muſt be confeſſed, is

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ſufficiently fertile. It is not, therefore, as a Scotchman, that any perſon has reaſon to object to the impolitic tax in queſtion, but in that of a liberal ſubject of Great Britain, concerned for the proſperity of every part of the empire. But, as to the reſtrictions on the manufacture of ſalt in Scotland, theſe appear, not only to be highly impolitic, but partial and unjuſt, even to a degree of aſtoniſhment, to that part of the united kingdom.

It is impoſſible to cure herrings properly, ſo as to preſerve them in high flavour for any length of time, eſpecially for the market of warmer climates, without the very beſt ſalt. The common ſalt, made in Scotland, is a compound of many different ſubſtances, ſome of which are as uſeful and neceſſary, as others are hurtful and pernicious to the curing of fiſh. Even what is called the Bay ſalt of different countries participates more or leſs of noxious impurity: and hence the Dutch, by a peculiar method of preparing a ſalt, of a ſuperior kind, from Spaniſh and other Bay ſalts, and the *Engliſh Rock-ſalt*, have brought the art of curing herrings to ſuch a degree of perfection, that no nation has hitherto been able to rival them. In Italy, Spain, Portugal, and even in France, where all other manufactures are ſo highly eſteemed, the Dutch herrings are preferred, and ſo long as there are any of theſe in the market, no body will buy the Engliſh; nor ſhall we ever be able to cope with the Hollanders in foreign markets, until our fiſh-curers are put in

poſſeſſion of ſalt of the beſt quality, and at the cheapeſt poſſible rate; or put in poſſeſſion of this advantage, until Engliſh Rock-ſalt may be imported into Scotland.

By an Act paſſed in 1786, *refined* Engliſh Rock-ſalt is allowed to be imported into Scotland, for the ſole purpoſe of curing of fiſh. The raw material is wholly prohibited. But, if the Scots, who are excellent chymiſts, and who, if they were not, might avail themſelves of the profferred inſtruction and aid of Doctor Roebuck, Doctor Swediaur and other ingenious foreigners, were permitted to import Rock-ſalt in the raw and unrefined ſtate, they would be enabled to ſupply the fiſheries with the pureſt and fitteſt ſalt ever made for curing fiſh, at a very reaſonable price. And, if the Scotch fiſhermen and curers, with this advantage, would concur in doing themſelves juſtice in point of care and cleanlineſs, they would not only be able to underſell the Dutch, in the article of ſalted fiſh, in all foreign markets, but we ſhould ſoon ſee ſalt fiſh made uſe of at table in London, as a cheap, healthy, and nouriſhing food, as well as a delicious luxury. It has therefore been propoſed, to grant the free importation of Rock-ſalt from England, if not into Scotland in general, at leaſt to ſome particular places, in the ſame manner as in England: ſuch as *Portſeton*, in the Frith of Forth; *Inverneſs*, or ſome place near it, on the Eaſt Coaſt, for ſupplying the Shetland and Orkney Iſlands; on the Weſt Coaſt, to *Air* and *Campbell-Town*; to *Oban*, the great fiſh-

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ing ſtation; to *Stornaway*, in *Lewis*; and *Tobermore*, in the Iſland of *Mull*, on the Weſt, &c.

As theſe obſervations may fall into the hands of ſome, to whom the connection between a free importation of Engliſh Rock-ſalt, and a reduction in the price of fine ſalt manufactured in Scotland, may appear myſterious, it may be proper to add the following illuſtrations of this important ſubject.

Sea-water, on the Coaſt of Scotland, contains about three *per cent.* of ſalt. The ſalt manufacturer is, therefore, obliged to evaporate out of 100 tons of ſea-water, ninety-ſeven tons of freſh water, in order to obtain three tons of ſalt. Whereas, if he had the uſe of Rock-ſalt, he would be enabled, by diſſolving this ſubſtance in ſea-water before boiling, to obtain out of 100 tons of this ſolution, twenty-three tons of ſalt, and would not be obliged to evaporate more than ſeventy-ſeven tons of water: which would farther be attended with a proportionable ſaving in fuel, time, and labour. For, in order to obtain, as above ſtated, three tons of ſalt from 100 tons of ſea-water, about forty-eight tons of coals are required: whereas, with Rock-ſalt, the manufacturer would be able, with forty-eight tons of coals, to make from fifteen to eighteen tons of ſalt. It may here be obſerved, by the way, that the great expence of manufacturing ſalt in Scotland operates, at preſent, as a premium held

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out to the Iriſh for refining Britiſh Rock-ſalt, and ſmuggling it over into that country. Farther ſtill with regard to Ireland, the law prohibiting the free and unlimited importation of Rock-ſalt into Scotland, acts as a premium on every barrel of fiſh, pork, and beef, cured in Ireland. But, if the Scots were encouraged, by a free importation of Rock-ſalt, they could cure meat as well as the Iriſh.

When a ſtratum of Rock-ſalt was firſt diſcovered in Cheſhire, it was freely exported to all the different nations of Europe. But, as it was diſcovered, that the Engliſh Rock-ſalt was not ſo pure as that of the ſalt mines in Poland, Tranſylvania, and Cardonna in Spain, it could not be uſed without being refined. For this reaſon, ſeveral ſalt refineries, ſoon after the diſcovery of this article, were erected in different parts of England: but, while it was freely exported, as before, to Ireland, and to every part of the Continent, it was judged expedient to confine the traffic in Rock-ſalt, in England, to places ſituated within ten computed miles of the ſalt-pit, and to the following places, where refineries were, at that time, erected: namely, *Heybridge*, *Colcheſter*, *Manningtree*, *Ipſwich*, *Woodbridge*, *Walderſwick*, and *Southwold*. The ſame liberty was afterward, by Parliament, extended to *Swanſea*, *Lawn-marſh*, and *Neath* in *Wales*; and to *Holyhead* in the Iſland of *Angleſea*. In thoſe Acts, no mention whatever was made of Scotland, not yet united under the ſame Government with England. And, as no law for prohibiting the exportation

exportation of the Cheſhire Rock-ſalt to Scotland has been paſſed ſince the Union, it is clear that the prohibitory laws reſpecting Rock-ſalt do not extend to that kingdom. It has been generally ſuppoſed, however, ſince the Union, that Scotland was comprehended within the boundaries of thoſe laws as well as England: a miſtake that was ſuffered to paſs without correction, becauſe there had not ariſen any circumſtances that could render it the intereſt of any individual, or body of men, to call it in queſtion.

There was little or no demand in *North-Britain* for more ſalt than was actually manufactured in the country, by evaporation from ſea-water, until the late increaſe of the Scotch Fiſheries: nor was it till very lately, that the art of refining Rock-ſalt into ſuch pure ſalt as that which is uſed by the Dutch in curing their herrings, which is the kind of ſalt that is uſed by the fiſheries, occupied the attention of this country. It appears very ſurpriſing, at firſt ſight, that *Great Britain* ſhould have opened this immenſe treaſure to all Europe, while ſhe ſhut it up from her own people. But our ſurprize ceaſes, when we conſider the circumſtances in which the laws reſpecting the Rock-ſalt of Cheſhire were framed. The Fiſheries on our Coaſts, at that period, were not ſo conſiderable as to render the article of ſalt of any great importance. But the Fiſheries of Scotland have, of late, ſo happily increaſed, that above twelve thouſand tons of ſalt are required to ſupply them, of which about 9,000 are

are imported annually from Portugal: becauſe the ſalt now made in the country from ſea-water is unfit for the curing of fiſh in a proper manner; and that, to improve it into ſuch a quality as might anſwer the purpoſes of Bay-ſalt imported from Portugal, would involve ſuch an additional expence of time, fuel, and labour, that no manufacturer could afford to ſell it at any reaſonable price to the Fiſheries. But were the free importation of Rock-ſalt allowed into Scotland, ſalt could be made of the very beſt quality for the Fiſheries, at leaſt one-fourth part under the rate at which Bay-ſalt is now to be purchaſed. A ſum of money, not leſs than 25 or 30,000l. Sterling, which is now ſent out annually for Bay-ſalt to *Portugal*, would remain in the country; and, what is ſtill of more importance, our Fiſheries in Scotland would, by theſe means, be rendered wholly independent of foreign nations in time of war: and ſmuggling, which, at preſent, is carried on, to the Weſt of Scotland by the Iriſh, who have Rock-ſalt and coals duty free, to a very conſiderable extent, would be cut up by the roots.

To what new views and ſubjects of animated enterprize the advancement of the Fiſheries on the Scottiſh Coaſts may give birth, time will determine. Among the objects that will, in all probability, firſt engage the attention of the Landholders and Fiſhing Societies, we may undoubtedly reckon the cutting and burning of the kelp that grows on

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their ſhores, and the extraction of oils from ſuch kinds, or ſuch parts of fiſh, as are not uſed for the table.

Friday, July 8th. From Oban we had an intention of going to the Iſle of Mull, and viſiting Staffa: and this I was the more deſirous of doing, that I had ſeen ſuch baſaltic appearances as are ſaid to diſtinguiſh that Iſland, on a large ſcale, in the Straits of Sunda; a circumſtance that might have ſuggeſted ſome compariſons, and led to ſeveral obſervations. But, finding, that without abundance of time, and proper introductions to the people of Mull, this would be a difficult and diſagreeable attempt, we relinquiſh our deſign, and go to Appin, which is about twelve miles diſtant. The road, in general, is tolerably good; but, in the courſe of this ride, we are obliged to croſs two ferries with our horſes, which is not a very pleaſing undertaking, the currents being very rapid.

About a mile from Oban ſtands the antient Caſtle of Dunolly, in a very romantic ſituation, upon the top of a rock; from which you have a fine view of Mull, of Liſmore, and ſeveral other Iſlands on the Coaſt of Argyleſhire. This was once the ſeat of the Macdougals, the antient Chieftains of Lorn. Nearly at the diſtance of a mile farther, on the South ſide of Loch-Etive, is the Caſtle of Dunſtaffenage, which is alſo built upon a rock. This was the reſidence of

the Scottiſh Kings till the ninth century; but is now in a ruinous condition. Mr. Campbell, the proprietor, has built a modern houſe, within the walls of the old Caſtle, by which it is defended from all weathers. Thus modern convenience is happily united with antient majeſty and ſtrength.

Near Dunſtaffenage, there are periodical exhibitions of one of the grandeſt, as well as moſt extraordinary ſpectacles that is perhaps to be ſeen on the face of the earth. At the ferry called *Connhuil*, or the raging flood, *Loch-Etive*, ſwelled at once by the tributary waters of *Loch-Awe*, and the ſpring tides, diſcharges itſelf, in a mighty cataract, through a ſtrait formed by a rock protended from either ſhore, as if by a frolic of nature. The tide firſt rolling inward into the lake over the ſloping backs of the rock, and then, in its return from this arm of the ſea, falling over the precipitous face of the rocks towards the Weſt, from a height of about fifteen feet, aſtoniſhes and deafens all around it, and is heard, in ſome directions, at the diſtance of many miles: while the fiſhing-boats plying in the ſmooth water at the extremities of the eddies, produced by the current, form a pleaſing ſight to a ſpectator from Dunſtaffenage-Caſtle. Were this appearance as permanent, as it is ſtriking, it muſt have been celebrated by the Poet, the Painter, and the Natural Hiſtorian. Undoubtedly, it furniſhes one of the beſt ſubjects for landſcape that is even to be conceived. The ſeaſon of the year

year precluded us from the enjoyment of this ſtupendous fall of ſalt water in all its glory.

There is a practice at Dunſtaffnage, which expreſſes in a very apt and pleaſing, though ſomewhat whimſical manner, at once the hoſpitality of the country, and the feudal attachment of the people to their Chief. When a ſtranger arrives, or rather a ſtrange company, (for viſitors in the Highlands come frequently in crowds) a pole is immediately erected on the battlements of the old Caſtle, with a table-cloth affixed to the end of it. This flag of peace ſerves as a ſignal to the tenants of certain poſſeſſions to bring freſh ſalmon, and other fiſh that may be in ſeaſon. Other tenants embrace that occaſion of ſhewing their attachment, or paying their court to the Laird, by preſenting any thing that is rare, or that they think may then be acceptable.

Upon the Eaſt ſide of Loch-Etive, oppoſite to Dunſtaffenage, are the remains of *Berigonium*, ſaid to have been the moſt antient town in Scotland. The veſtiges of ſome entrenchments, mounds of earth, and a cauſway, which, to this day, bears the title of Market-ſtreet, are ſtill viſible, with a druidical circle, and ſome rude ſtone pillars, two of which the country people affirm to have been the principal gate of the Town. Upon the top of an inſulated hill adjoining, there appears to have been what ſome would call a vitrified

fort; though others will have it to be the veſtiges of a volcano. But, be that as it may, this place is ſurely worthy of more minute examination. Our time, however, did not permit us to pay ſuch attention to it as we wiſhed. In the Spring of 1789, a ſtone coffin, or urn, was diſcovered in a neighbouring field, which contained ſome human bones of more than the ordinary ſize, and ſeveral other pieces of antiquity have been found there. The Apocryphal Hiſtorians of Scotland ſay, that *Berigone*, or *Berigonium*, was the principal reſidence and burial place of their Kings, before the ſeat of Government was removed to Dunſtaffenage. They even mention the names of certain Scottiſh Kings, who were buried there *in the ſepultures of their progenitors*, prior to the Chriſtian æra.

Paſs by Ardmuknage, a handſome modern-built houſe, belonging to Campbell of Lochnell, around which the pictureſque hills are now finely covered with wood, which, it ſeems, was moſtly planted by the laſt proprietor of this eſtate, Sir Duncan Campbell. A little further onward lives another Campbell, called the Laird of Airds, who has alſo a good houſe, and well ſheltered by wood. This country is ſo full of Campbells, that it is neceſſary to diſtinguiſh individuals by ſome peculiarity in their perſon, or by their eſtates and farms. For example: Duncan Roy, Duncan Moir, Duncan Dow, &c. &c. in thoſe parts, are all of them Campbells, though they are diſtinguiſhed among their neighbours by the

the cognominations of *red*, *large*, and *black*. Miſs Aſniſh, Miſs Aſkemel, Miſs Braſlin, are deſignations equivalent to Miſs Campbell of Aſniſh, Miſs Campbell of Aſkemel, Miſs Campbell of Braſlin. The Clergymen's children are deſigned by the Chriſtian names of their fathers: as, Miſs Betty Saunders, Miſs Jeany Peter, Miſs Maria Malcolm, Miſs Anna Duncan, &c. A ſimilar obſervation may be made on the territories poſſeſſed by other clans.

To the North of the Laird of Airds is an inlet of the ſea, forming a ſmall bay, with two or three iſlands, on one of which are the ruins of an old caſtle belonging to the ſame gentleman. This den is remarkable only for being nearly as large as the iſland on which it ſtands. It ſerves to ſhew in what miſerable holes the people of former times were obliged to hide themſelves. Oppoſite to this ſmall iſland is Letter Shuna, the ſeat of the Laird of Appin: and about a mile again from this is Mr. Seton's houſe, beautifully ſituated on an eminence, which commands a view of Liſmore, with all the iſlands down to the Sound of Mull, and the chain of mountains which run up to Fort William, on the North-Weſt ſide of Loch-Lhynn.

Great pains have been taken by Mr. Seton to lay out his grounds, and raiſe plantations, which are very extenſive. There is a great deal of graſs-land about this place, and ſome oats and barley which look ſtrong and flouriſhing. The

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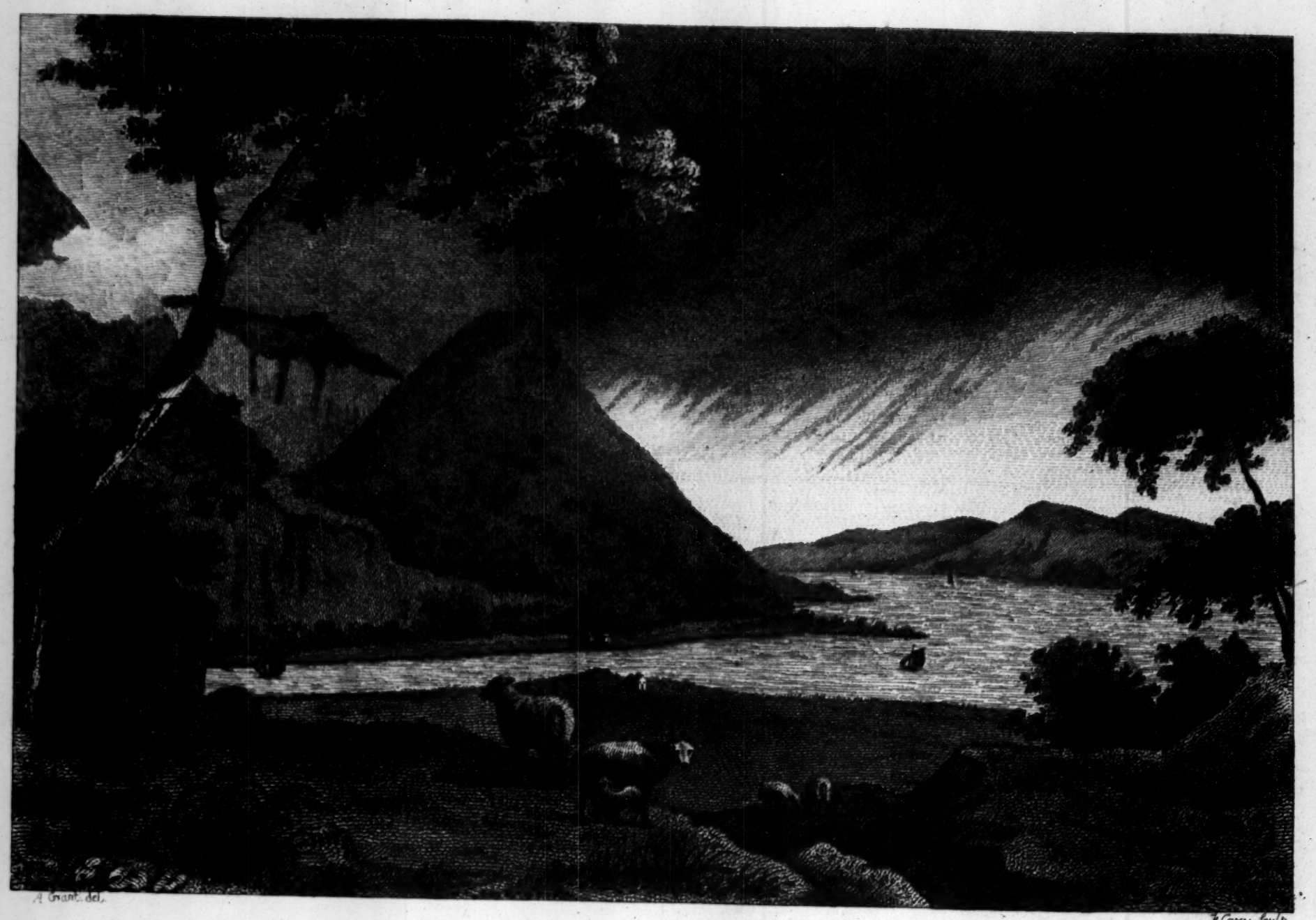
houſe is a very good one, kept neat, and commodiouſly furniſhed, as we experienced, by having very comfortable lodging and beds in it. Between Oban and Appin there is a great deal of low grazing land, and more corn than I have yet ſeen in an equal ſpace, in the Highlands. But the moſt fertile tract in the Highlands or Iſlands of Scotland, beyond all compariſon, is the Iſland of Liſmore; which, though the ſoil be very thin, and, in ſome places, not above an inch over the loamy rocks, produces corn of all kinds in the greateſt abundance, and in all ſeaſons.

Saturday, July 9th. Leave Appin, in the morning, and ride ſome diſtance by the water ſide, through Mr. Seton's land, where great attention ſeems to be paid to agriculture, and particularly to keep the land clear of weeds. The manure applied, which is ſhell-ſand and lime, ſeems to anſwer very well, as the crops are ſtrong and healthy. In ſhort, this country, with the roads that open and lead through it, bear evident marks of liberal and patriotic proprietors; for miſery and wretchedneſs are baniſhed from hence, though they are ſtill too viſible, almoſt every where elſe throughout the Highlands.

Ride by the water ſide ten miles to Ballyhuliſh Ferry, where there is a ſmith's ſhop, and a ſmall inn, in which we were obliged to ſtay ſome time, being wet through when we came to it. At this place, a beautiful hill riſing from the



A. Grant. del.

F. Cary Sculp.

A VIEW at the FERRY of BALLYHULISH

the bottom of the valley in a conical form, and verdant to the very top, with the ſoft expanſe of water that on one ſide waſhes its baſe, ſet off the rude majeſty of the heath-coloured mountains around, and particularly thoſe that form the entrance into Glencoe, in the light of ſtrong contraſt. The road in general, for ſuch a mountainous and rocky country, is tolerably good. In the afternoon, ride through Glencoe, on each ſide of which are the moſt tremendous precipices I ever beheld in any part of the world. Torrents of water falling from theſe in all ſhapes and directions, form at the bottom a large and rapid river. As we paſſed through the glen, it blew a ſtorm. Sometimes the craggy mountains were hid in black clouds, and, at others, viſible through the miſt, which ſerved to aggravate the gloom of this aweful place, and render it truly horrible. This ſeemed a fit ſcene for the maſſacre of 1691, which leaves a ſtain either on the memory of King William, or that of his miniſters, or on both. At the foot of theſe precipitous mountains, there is much verdure, but the ſides are ſo perpendicular, that ſcarcely even a goat can feed upon them. In the middle of the glen there are two or three miſerable huts. The ſtumps of great numbers of large trees remain in ſeveral parts of the glen. At the upper part, the ſide of one mountain is ſtill covered with firs: and wherever peat is dug, many large trees are found, which ſhews, that this has been formerly a foreſt.

Sunday, 10th July. After getting out of Glencoe, which

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is ten miles long, you may ſee the King's Houſe, at the diſtance of three miles, ſituated on the ſide of a rapid river. Around this lonely hut, for twenty miles in each direction, there ſeems to be no habitation, nor food for man or beaſt. The road here is little frequented, except by droyers of cattle; and the Inn is ſuited only to ſuch gueſts. There is not a bed in it fit for a decent perſon to ſleep in, nor any proviſions but what are abſolutely neceſſary for the family, although the Landlord has it rent-free, and is allowed nine pounds per annum by Government. In the morning leave this curſed place, and ride to Fort-William, twenty-four miles of very bad road, over two mountains; one at Auchnafie, called the Devil's Stair-caſe; the other at Kinloch-Leven, at the head of the lake of that name. About four miles ſouth of Fort-William, is a very good grazing farm, on the Lochiel eſtate, called Loch-Andrava, of conſiderable extent, which produces the fineſt graſs I have ſeen in the Highlands.

Monday, 11th July. Viſit Fort-William, built in King William's reign. The preſent fort, which is a triangle, has two baſtions, and is capable of admitting a garriſon of 800 men, but not to be defended againſt any attack. Several hills near it command the whole fort, and the north ſide of it is quite open, the wall having lately fallen down. There are now two companies of infantry in it. About a mile from Fort-William is Inverlochy, an old caſtle, with large round towers, ſuppoſed to have been built by Edward I.

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In 790 Inverlochy was one of the ſeats of the Kings of Scotland. About a mile from this caſtle, on the river Lochy, which empties itſelf into the ſea at Fort-William, is a ſalmon fiſhery, the joint property of Lochiel and the Duke of Gordon: 200 barrels, containing each, from twenty-five to twenty-ſeven fiſh, have been taken this year, which is reckoned a very ſucceſsful fiſhing. Theſe barrels have been ſold as high as ſeven pounds, but produce now only five pounds ten ſhillings, which will bear a profit of about forty ſhillings. This fiſhery is farmed by four men, who pay 150l. per annum for it, and for this ſum have land into the bargain, which produces 50l. per annum to them. Therefore, I ſuppoſe, the fiſhery muſt be very profitable, though they do not take the means to fiſh the river properly. The quality of this ſalmon is equal to that of the Severn.

Tueſday, 12th July. Ride by the ſide of Lochiel to Mr. Cameron of Faſſifern's houſe. A part of the eſtate of Lochiel, which lies on each ſide of this loch, has exceedingly good grazing land to the tops of the hills. The lower ground is a light ſandy ſoil, fitted to produce very good corn, eſpecially as a great quantity of ſea-weed is thrown on the ſhore, which, mixed with lime, makes good manure. The lime, indeed, is not upon the ſpot, but is brought from the Iſland of Liſmore in ſtones, and landed at Lochiel for three ſhillings per ton. At preſent, the weed which is thrown on the ſhore is converted to another uſe, which

probably may be more beneficial to the proprietor than putting it on the land. It is cut once in three years, and burnt into kelp, for making glaſs. Mr. Cameron makes about ſixteen tons of this triennially. It is ſold ſometimes, for ſix pounds per ton on the ſpot, which muſt produce a good profit, as the only drawback, is the labour, which is one ſhilling a day. The eſtate of Lochiel to the north-weſt reaches all the way to Loch-Arkek, where there is an extent of wood near twelve miles long, all firs: and, at the upper end of Lochiel is a very good oak wood, of near 200 acres. The eaſy communication with the water and the ſea, muſt make the timber of conſiderable value, if ſuffered to grow to a large ſize; but the growth of trees has been much neglected. The whole country being turned into paſture land, for the more immediate profit ariſing from grazing, has prevented the wood from getting up, which it would do naturally, if it were only protected from the cattle, as clearly appears from ſeveral ſpots about Faſſifern's houſe, where the cattle are not ſuffered to go, being covered with very fine oak and birch. Were this ſimple plan adopted, either by incloſures or otherwiſe, in the worſt part of the eſtate, where grazing is not ſo profitable, in the courſe of ten years woods might be raiſed which would be very profitable. As climate here is ſo much complained of, and the ripening of the corn is a matter of great uncertainty, the grazing ground might, at a ſmall expence at firſt, be made more productive than it is at preſent, by adopting the

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method, uſed in Derbyſhire, of large encloſures, where graſs will always grow better than when it is entirely open: this would feed more black cattle, and employ more people to attend them than ſheep do, the rearing of which, I clearly ſee, if continued to its preſent extent, will depopulate the whole country; for one family can attend as many ſheep as ſeveral miles will graze.

Ill fares the land, to haſt'ning ills a prey,
While wealth accumulates and men decay;
Princes and Lords may flouriſh, or may fade,
A breath can make them, as a breath has made:
But a bold Peaſantry, their Country's pride,
When once deſtroyed, can never be ſupply'd.

Another plan is abſolutely neceſſary for the improvement of all this country, which is, to grant long leaſes to the tenants, and to make it their intereſt to live at home and cultivate the land. By theſe means, the eſtates would, in time, be greatly benefited, the landlord might raiſe his rents without oppreſſing the tenant, and thoſe people who are now, to all appearance, truly miſerable and wretched, rendered comfortable and happy. I have heard it alledged, in defence, or in excuſe of letting the land to the natives, only on ſufferance, that long leaſes might, in many inſtances, lead to indolence, and preclude thoſe improvements which might be otherwiſe introduced, from time to time, by the proprietor. But in all regulations and laws regard is to be had to their general operation. And, with reſpect

to the preſent ſubject, the queſtion plainly is, whether the poſſeſſion of leaſes will tend more to nouriſh indolence in the tenant, than the want of them to perpetuate rapacity and oppreſſion in the landlord? Here, ſuch a traveller as Dr. Johnſon, would have an opportunity of ſpeculating on the moral nature of man, and the changes thereon produced by the different forms of political ſociety. It is ſufficient, for our preſent purpoſe, to obſerve, that indolence is not the ruling paſſion of men or nations; but that, on the contrary, growing deſires and wants, as civilization advances in its progreſs, rouze them more and more into action; and, therefore, that the ſame increaſe of luxury which would induce the landlord to rack his tenant, would diſpoſe his tenant to ſeek, by his induſtry, the means of keeping pace, at leaſt, if not of making a figure among his neighbours. It was a very happy fancy in a linen manufacturer near Glaſgow, who, being deſirous to encourage the ſpinning of linen yarn in certain ſequeſtered corners in the Weſtern Highlands, ſent annually a parcel of ſmall horſes, or jack-aſſes, laden with ribbands, ſnuff, and tobacco, and other articles agreeable to the taſte of the inhabitants. Theſe, he found, operated more powerfully towards the excitement of induſtry, as they made a more direct impreſſion on the imagination, than even money itſelf; which miniſtered to their wants in a more circuitous manner. The Chieftain, in many places, lets the land, in large lots, to renters; who ſub-let it, again, in ſmall parcels from year to year, to the lower

lower claſs of the people, and ſqueeze every thing out of them that they can poſſibly get, leaving them only a bare ſubſiſtence. I am happy, however, in being informed, that there are land-holders in the Highlands who begin now to ſee the advantage of letting their land in ſmall lots.

It is to be obſerved here, that there is a diſtinction between the renters to whom I now allude, and thoſe known, or rather formerly known under the name of Tackſmen: I ſay formerly known, for this claſs of men, that conſtituted the middling rank in ſociety, and conſequently the ſtrength and heart of the country, have, for the moſt part, been obliged to abandon the poſſeſſions that had deſcended to them from father to ſon, through a long courſe of generations, and, many of them, to ſeek an aſylum beyond the Atlantic. It is to the diſpoſſeſſion of the Tackſmen chiefly that we are to aſcribe thoſe melancholy emigrations that have happened, from time to time, in the courſe of the laſt twenty years, from the Iſlands, and Weſtern and Northern Coaſts of Scotland. The caſe of thoſe men is exceedingly hard, and ſuch, I am perfectly convinced, as if it had happened in England, would not only have been univerſally deplored as cruel, but conſidered as unjuſt and illegal.

The Tackſmen of the Highlands were uſually deſcendants of thoſe heads of families of whom they held their lands. In former times, as is generally known, before the introduction,

duction, at leaſt before the improvement of arts and commerce, in Scotland, there were no other ways in which gentlemen had it in their power to make proviſion for their younger ſons than to ſend them into foreign military ſervice, or to ſettle them on portions of their own eſtates, reſerving to themſelves and the elder branches of the family certain annual rents and ſervices. Theſe grants were not underſtood to be temporary, or revocable at the caprice of any ſucceeding feudal ſuperior, but perpetual. The Chief who made them, concerned for the welfare and ſtability of all his children, or rather near relations, conſulted their happineſs by placing them in advantageous farms; and the dignity, at the ſame time, of the repreſentatives of his family, by the demeſnes that remained in their own hands, as well as by the annual rents already mentioned, paid for the moſt part in kind, and therefore commutable, at any given period, with the varying value of money. It is not to be preſumed, in fair and equitable conſtruction, that the farms, or conditional grants of lands were ever intended to be revoked, while the original motive for making them remained undiminiſhed. But that motive not only remained undiminiſhed, but every day, by the increaſe of thoſe to be provided for (and the warm attachment of the antient Scots to their kindred is univerſally allowed) was ſtrengthened.

In ſome periods and in ſome places thoſe grants of farms were made by a conveyance emblematical and verbal: in

other

other periods, and other places, not only by means of emblems, but in writing. In Argyleſhire, and on the eaſtern ſide of the Highlands, it became common to convey land, and make other taansferences of property in writing, at a time when letters were but little known, and leſs in uſe, in thoſe quarters that were cut off by their remote ſituation from that intercourſe which introduced the art and practice of writing into the diſtricts contiguous to the civilized Lowlands. Hence it very naturally happened, that in the ſouthern parts of Argyleſhire, in Perthſhire, Aberdeenſhire, Murray, and Roſs, grants of land were made in writing, while in Inverneſsſhire, Sutherlandſhire the Northern parts of Argyleſhire, and the Weſtern Iſlands, the old mode was continued of verbal or emblematical transference. In Roſsſhire, particularly, it would appear that letters, and the uſe of letters in civil affairs, had been early introduced and widely ſpread: for property is more equally divided in that County than in moſt other Counties in Scotland, and than in any other of the Highlands. Agreeably to theſe obſervations, it is from the great eſtates on the northern and weſtern ſides of Scotland, that the deſcendants of the original Tackſmen of the land, with their families, have been obliged to migrate by the poſitive and unrelenting demands of rent beyond what it was in their power to give, and, indeed, in violation of thoſe conditions that were underſtood, and obſerved between the original granter and original tenant, and their poſterity,

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for centuries. In all other Countries, and in all other caſes, civil rights are confirmed by antiquity of poſſeſſion. By a ſtrange perverſity of circumſtances, it has happened in the northern part of this Iſland, and, it ſeems, may happen, that a right of property in land is not confirmed by length of time, but undermined and ſubverted. It is not undoubtedly, that there is any thing magical in a piece of paper or parchment marked by certain figures, that written documents are accounted a proper conveyance of property in land or other tenements: No. To aſſert this, would be to confound the ſubſtance with the ſhadow. Written records are of no other authority than as far as they ſerve to declare the mutual conſent of the contracting parties. This conſent, before the uſe of letters, was more emphatically declared by the mutual deliverance and acceptance of ſtone and earth, or other ſymbols: and ſo natural and expreſſive did this practice, which was called *ſeizin*, appear to the common ſenſe of mankind, that it has not yet been wholly ſuperſeded by the uſe of letters, either in Scotland or England. Seizen, occupancy, long and uninterrupted poſſeſſion, form the moſt ſubſtantial right that is generally to be found to any ſpecies of property. Yet this right ſo plain, ſo palpable, and univerſally reſpected by men and nations, has been openly and flagrantly violated in the caſe of the unfortunate Tackſmen. This claſs of men, bred up in an hereditary attachment to the heads of their families, muſt, no doubt, be equally ſurpriſed and grieved at a ſullen call, as

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if they were ſtrangers, either to come forward with exorbitant rents, or to leave, for ever, the beloved haunts of their youth, the ſeats of their anceſtors for ages, the kindred ſoil over which the genii of their forefathers ſeemed ſtill to hover, and to which their ſouls ſtedfaſtly cleave with a kind of filial affection.

" The enormity of that treatment, they inſiſt, which has occaſioned the emigration of ſo great a number of the middling gentry, who form the ſtrength, and do the honours, as it were, of the country, is aggravated by the conſideration that there was a period when the Chief, who expels the Tackſman from his hereditary poſſeſſion, had himſelf no other right to his domain than that of occupancy : though a written Charter was procured afterwards. The King, or Commander in Chief of the Army parcelled out the land to his Officers, on the neceſſary and obvious condition that they ſhould maintain, and be ready to bring into the field a certain force for the ſupport of that government under the authority of which they held their new poſſeſſions. The Chiefs who held directly of the Crown, diſtributed the greater part of their lands among the moſt diſtinguiſhed and moſt favoured of their adherents, generally of their own blood, on conditions ſimilar to thoſe on which they themſelves held their eſtates of the Lord Paramount: theſe feudal vaſſals, let ſmaller lots, under the name of ploughs of land, on ſimilar conditions, to the huſbandmen; and theſe again ſub-let pendicles to the great body of

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the labouring people. The ſame analogy ran throughout the whole feudal ſyſtem, from the throne to the loweſt cottager. Neither the grant of the extenſive domain to the immediate tenant of the Crown, nor that of the tenant of the Crown to his vaſſal, nor that of his vaſſal to the huſbandman, nor that of the huſbandman to the pendicler and cotter, was, in the earlieſt times of feudality, abſolute and perpetual, but conditional, and originally underſtood to be only for life: as appears from certain fines that were levied, when the ſon or next heir was permitted to ſucceed to the poſſeſſion of his father. But ſanction and ſecurity were diffuſed over the poſſeſſions of the Chief by the venerable veil of time: which, if it is at all to be reſpected, ought to protect the inheritance of a vaſſal to a ſubject, as well as that of the vaſſal of the Crown.

The actual ſyſtem of landed property in the weſt of Europe, has varied its form with the prevailing character of ſucceſſive ages. It has been accommodated to the rude ſimplicity of the more antient times, as well as to the feudal chivalry of the middle ages. In the preſent times, it is every where ſubjected to a new modification, from the genius and maxims of a commercial age, and from increaſing induſtry and cultivation. But, from this modification, flagrant oppreſſions have ariſen; the lordly Chief applying the maxims of an age in which money is the univerſal repreſentative, and letters the univerſal media of transferring property, to eſtabliſhments founded in times

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when the great proprietors of land, wholly employed in hunting, military exploits, and rude conviviality, never dreamed of increaſing their fortunes by means of commerce: which, if they had known, they would have diſdained. The glory of the Chief was the glory of all his kindred and name: and the numbers and fidelity of his vaſſals and tenants, again, were what conſtituted the power and conſequence of the Chief. The produce of the land, corn, cattle, fiſh, and game, were ſpent on the eſtate, but chiefly at the manſion-houſes of the great, in generous hoſpitality. And in thoſe times, the Highlanders were better fed, and, in general, finer men than they are at preſent. For now the cattle, the ſalmon, and the very game, are either carried, or driven out of the country: nor has the faint dawn of commerce been yet able to ſupply that abundance which preceded it.

It is in theſe circumſtances, when the rude majeſty, and the ſtrong attachments of feudal times have been exchanged for a general venality, according to the language of ſome, or a ſpirit of commerce and improvement, according to that of others, that certain Highland Chiefs have dared to diſpoſſeſs their vaſſals of tenements inherited by their families, antecedently to the uſe of letters."

Theſe are among the arguments uſed, or that may be uſed, by thoſe who maintain the rights of the duniwaſſals, or tackſmen, to the conditional poſſeſſion of lands occupied by their anceſtors for ages. They are not applied to

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new or late poſſeſſors, who are evidently in the predicament of common farmers in all countries, but to the antient tenants of lands, beſtowed, on certain terms, by their fore-fathers, though not with the formalities uſual in an age, in which all conveyances are made in writing; lands on which parents naturally ſpeculated in the education of their offspring, and in the meaſures they adopted for their eſtabliſhment in the world.

Though I have ſtated, I do not pretend to decide this queſtion of preſcription: which I leave to the judgment of lawyers. Were it certain that a recognizance of the preſcriptive rights of the antient tackſmen would involve a general tranſmiſſion of lazineſs, and neglect of improvement, there might, perhaps, be ſome difficulty in determining the cauſe between political expediency, on the one part; and material juſtice to individuals, on the other. But might not the rightsof the tackſmen, ſuppoſing them to be really under the foſtering care of a wiſe legiſlature, be reconciled with the general intereſts of the country? In ſome inſtances, the Lairds, or great Landholders, tenants of the Crown, have given the immediate cultivators of the ground greater independence than they formerly enjoyed under the tackſmen: but the tackſmen, like the Lairds, attentive to their own intereſt, might expand their views to more liberal plans, and change their ideas with the times: or, a law might be enacted, compelling the tackſmen, as well as the tenants of the Crown, to do what is reaſonable; and that is fully as much as the Lairds, in any inſtance,

ſtance, do at preſent, in favour of their tenants, of their own accord. It is not the firſt time, and it will not, there is every reaſon to hope, be the laſt, that a benevolent and enlightened Sovereign, in this country, by the eſtabliſhment of juſt and merciful laws, has extended relief to the oppreſſed body of his people.

James the Firſt of Scotland, one of the moſt illuſtrious Princes that ever governed that kingdom, received, by accident, as is generally known, an excellent education in England, which qualified him, when he afterwards mounted the Scottiſh throne, to reform, in ſome meaſure, the rude and barbarous manners of his native country. Before the reign of this Prince, the Scottiſh peaſants were ſubject to be turned out of their poſſeſſions, ſo dreadful was the Ariſtocratical Tyranny of thoſe times! on one day's notice. But the King took thoſe poor people under his protection, and indulged them with previous warning, to the extent of one year and forty days at leaſt: forty days before Whitſunday, and a whole year after. Could we ſuppoſe the life of James to have been prolonged to the preſent period, would it not be reaſonable alſo to ſuppoſe that, his views expanding with the times, he would have deviſed ſome means for obliging landholders to grant leaſes to their tenants, and for the abolition of all perſonal ſervices?

The great and growing grievance in the Highlands, is not the letting of the land to tackſmen, but the making of ſo many ſheep-walks; which ſweep off both tackſmen and ſub-tenants, all in a body. The tenures of tackſmen, it would

would appear, ſhould not be exploded, but regulated. It would be bad policy to attempt the improvement of a country, by exterminating its inhabitants: inhabitants too, who live in a happy medium between the poor day-labourer, who is a mere hireling, and the great landlord, who reſides but little on his eſtate, which he conſiders merely as a fund for living where he pleaſes.

That part of the Lochiel eſtate which goes down from Fort-William on the Eaſt-ſide of Linne-Loch, to the Ferry at Bally-huliſh, contains a quantity of very good grazing land, and will produce any thing that may be wiſhed for, ſuch as carrots, turnips, or cabbages for feeding cattle in Winter, &c. Great quantities of very fine potatoes are now growing upon it, as flouriſhing as any in England. By the culture of ſuch plants and roots, more black cattle may be fed: for the great draw-back in this buſineſs at preſent, is the want of provender in Winter.

Near Loch-Leven is a very good ſlate quarry, which in ſome meaſure ſupplies the neighbouring country, and ſome of it is ſent to different parts coaſtways. Mr. Seton has two on the oppoſite ſhore, which rather diminiſh its value: however, it may be turned to a very good account, in the proceſs of time, by that ſpirit of building which has lately ſprung up, in every part, and among all ranks of people in Scotland. As to the preſent habitations in the Highlands, they can ſcarcely be conſidered as houſes, but as holes calculated to confine the ſmoke, and exclude at once the cold

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and the light. The cold is indeed the great enemy againſt which a Highlander has to guard himſelf. And though no Kamſkatka hut can be worſe than the cave in which he lives, in appearance, yet, in reſpect of warmth it is for the moſt part preferable to the wooden cabbin of the poor cottager in England, and ſome other Countries. In certain latitudes where the cold is ſtill more intenſe, it is well known that the natives literally creep into the earth for ſhelter.

The farm of Bennevis, at the foot of the mountain of that name, one of the higheſt in Scotland, is a very good one for grazing, and other purpoſes. On the banks of the river Lochy is a great extent of flat land, ſeveral hundred acres. This is at preſent covered with a ſort of moſs, but has a ſandy ſoil under it, which, by means of ſea-weed or lime, may be converted into good land in the courſe of two or three years. Thoſe manures deſtroy the moſs in one year: the next, tolerable potatoes may be raiſed; and the third, oats or barley. It may then be laid down in graſs. At the upper end of Lochiel is a ſalmon fiſhery: but nets only are uſed, and few fiſh are taken.

Wedneſday, 13th July. The town of Maryborough has a good many tolerable houſes in it, and contains about 500 people, who have actually no employment, but a little herring fiſhing in the ſeaſon. The only mode, in my opinion, that can be adopted to make them induſtrious, is, to eſtabliſh

tabliſh amongſt them a woollen manufactory. This country produces a great quantity of wool, which is now ſent to Glaſgow and Liverpool to be wrought into cloth, &c. A manufactory of wool would render the articles of dreſs much cheaper, and give activity to a ſet of men, loſt to the world and to themſelves, in the moſt torpid and miſerable indolence. The communication from hence to the ſea is too obvious to admit of any illuſtration. Ships of any ſize may come up to Fort-William: but the paſſages among the iſlands are dangerous, from rapid tides and currents, and thoſe ſtorms and hard ſqualls to which all mountainous countries are ſubject. Yet it certainly may be navigated, and, in the ſummer months, with eaſe. At Fort-William there is great abundance of peat for fuel, particularly on the Lochiel eſtate, not three miles from the town, whither it is brought in boats. Coals alſo may be landed tolerably cheap. Fiſh of various ſorts are caught here in great plenty: ſalmon, turbot, herrings, haddocks, whitings, &c. &c.

To the weſtward of Lochiel is a conſiderable eſtate, called Clanronnald, belonging to Macdonald, who alſo poſſeſſes the greater part of the iſland of South Uiſt, which, by the article of kelp alone, produces 1500l. a year.

Thurſday, 14th July. Leave Fort-William, and go to Letter-Findlay, fourteen miles of very bad road, and rather hilly. Paſs over High-Bridge, built by General Wade over the

A VIEW on LOCH LOCHY

the River Spean: two of the arches are ninety-five feet high. This is a very rapid river, running between high and perpendicular rocks into Loch-Lochy, which is fourteen miles long, and two broad. This loch empties itſelf into the weſtern ſea, at Fort-William, as Loch-Oich does through Loch-Neſs, into the eaſtern, at Inverneſs. From Fort-William to the weſt part of Loch-Lochy, there is a great quantity of good grazing land, the graſs being of a moderate height. The mountains on the north of the loch are of a vaſt height, and barren, except near the bottom, where there is ſome good graſs. On the ſouth ſide of the loch there are good ſheep-walks, and the land is, in various places, covered with wood. Soon after you come upon Loch-Lochy, you have a view into Loch-Arkeg; and upon the oppoſite ſhore, near the entrance into Loch-Arkeg, ſtood Achnacarrie, the ſeat of Lochiel, burnt in 1746. The road from this place ſtretches eight miles, on the ſide of Loch-Lochy, and is ſometimes carried through very beautiful woods of aller and birch. After paſſing Loch-Lochy, a very ſhort diſtance brings you to Loch-Oich, a narrow lake, prettily indented, and adorned with ſmall, wooded iſlands. On the north ſhore, near the middle of the lake, is Invergarie, the ſeat of Mr. Macdonald, of Glengarie, a modern, though odd-built houſe. Near this, on a rock, ſtand the ruins of the old caſtle, burnt in the Rebellion 1745. Here alſo are extenſive woods of full-grown fir-trees, and a ſaw-mill, conſtantly employed, manufactures them into deals. This

place is prettily wooded, and the land up the glen ſeems to be well cultivated.

After leaving this loch, you travel about four miles to Fort-Auguſtus, which is ſituated on a plain at the head of Loch-Neſs, between the Rivers Tarff and Oich. Over the laſt of theſe, there is a bridge of three arches, well built, which opens a communication with the north, and north-weſt. Fort-Auguſtus is a ſmall fortreſs, formed by four baſtions, and is capable of containing about 400 men. It is not capable of any defence, being commanded by ſeveral heights at no great diſtance. Near the fort is a ſmall village, and a tolerable inn; and below it, a little pier, which affords ſhelter for ſmall veſſels and boats, that come from Inverneſs to ſupply the garriſon. The mountains on each ſide of Fort-Auguſtus are very rocky and barren: nor is there much grazing or corn-land in the bottoms.

Friday, July 15. We leave Fort-Auguſtus, and aſcend a very long hill to the ſouth of the fort, which is near three miles to the top; on reaching the ſummit of which, you are preſented with a view of numberleſs hills and mountains of almoſt barren rock. In the vallies, or rather pits, may be ſeen a few acres of grazing land, and a ſmall quantity of corn. On the top of this mountain is Loch-Tarff, about a mile wide, with ſeveral ſmall iſlands in it, on ſome of which you ſee a few ſhrubs. This loch ſends forth the River

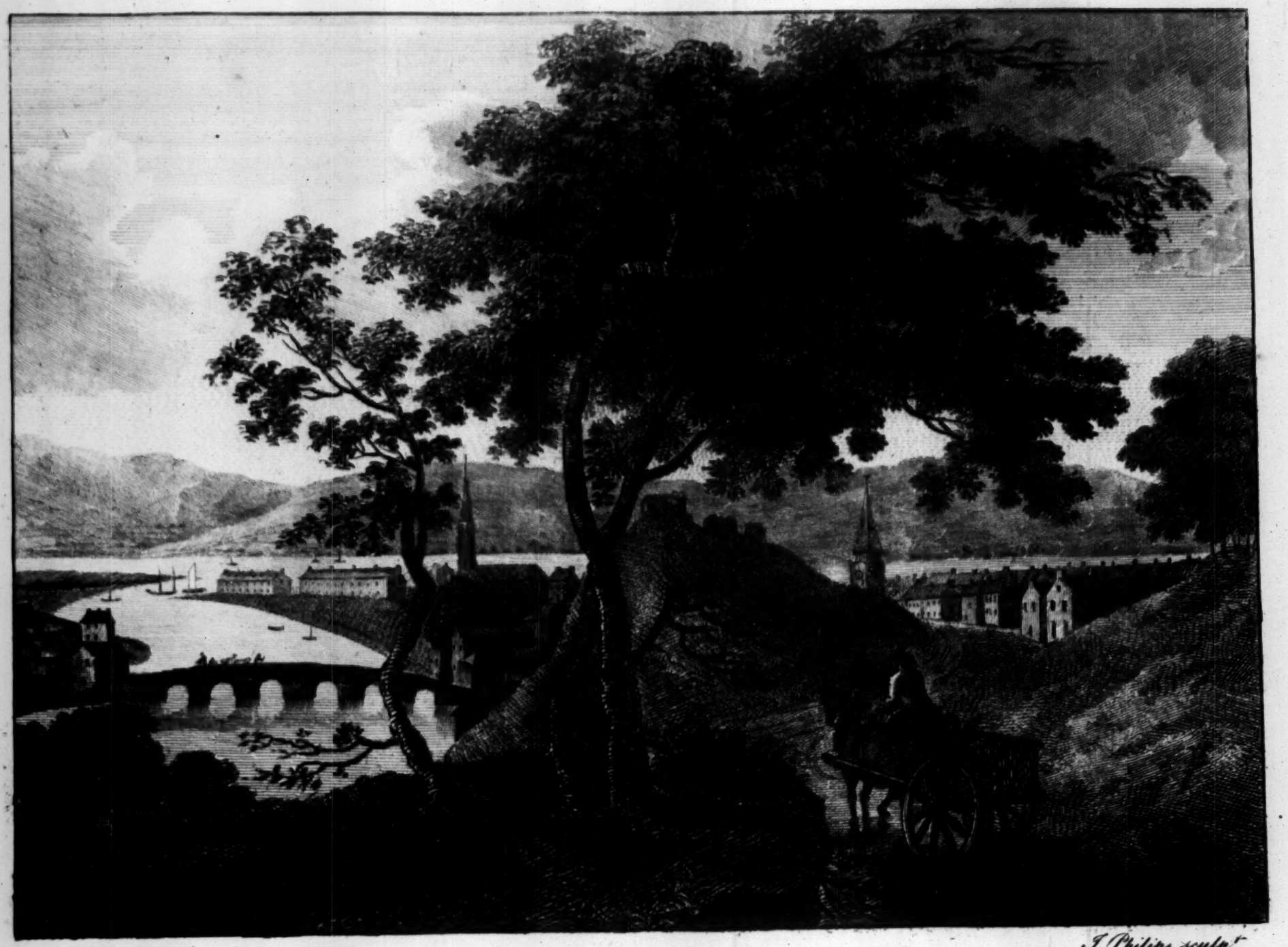
Tarff,

Tarff, which runs down to Fort-Auguſtus, ſwelled in its paſſage by ſeveral ſmall ſtreams. Ride nine miles over this barren country, and arrive at the celebrated fall of Fyers, at the upper part of the glen, which is beautifully covered with birch-trees. Above the fall is a bridge built over the river upon two perpendicular rocks, the top of the arch near 100 feet from the level of the water; and juſt above the bridge, the whole body of the Tarff falls near fifty feet perpendicular into the glen. Near a quarter of a mile below this bridge is the large fall, which is near 200 feet, and the water afterwards runs into Loch-Neſs, over large and rugged rocks. On a promontory cloſe by this river, a gentleman of the name of Fraſer, has a houſe pleaſantly ſituated, which commands a good view of the loch, and the mountains on each ſide. About a mile from the Fall of Fyers, the road is carried through a very beautiful birch wood, to the General's Hut, a very indifferent public houſe, where we were obliged to dine on very bad fare. Near this are the ruins of an old kirk, where the remains of many of the Fraſers are depoſited. After leaving the General's Hut, the road goes for twelve miles by the ſide of Loch-Neſs, through a beautiful ſhrubbery of birch, oak, and alders. The oppoſite ſide of the loch is formed by very high mountains, moſtly covered with heath. At the lower part of the loch, which is twenty-four miles long, and at ſome places two miles wide, are many plantations of fir, ſome of them very extenſive, but none of

the trees above fifteen or twenty years old. Some hollies, and a great deal of juniper and furze, grow at the lower part of the loch. This furze is the firſt I have ſeen in the Highlands. The plantations of fir are continued all the way to Inverneſs, which is about five miles from the lower end of Loch-Neſs, where it forms a river which falls into the Murray-Firth.

On the north ſide of this great expanſe of water, where it is indented by a promontory of ſolid rock, ſtands Caſtle-Urquhart, once the ſeat of the Cummins, at one period the moſt powerful clan in Scotland. The lake, with its woody borders, the lofty mountains within which it is emboſomed, and the eaſy tranſition of ideas, by means of the lake, to the forts, and to the town of Inverneſs, render this ſpot one of the moſt charming that the imagination can conceive. The ſoil between the lower part of Loch-Neſs and Inverneſs is very ſandy, but produces tolerable corn. In the River-Neſs much ſalmon is caught. The fiſhery is let to the London fiſhmongers.

Inverneſs is a town of conſiderable magnitude, ſaid to contain about 11,000 inhabitants. Some of the houſes in it are tolerably built, but the ſtreets narrow and dirty. It is ſituated on a plain between the Murray Firth and the River Neſs. Ships of 4 or 500 tons can ride within a mile of the town, and, at high tide, veſſels of 200 tons can come up to the



A Grant pinx.t *J. Philips sculp.t*

INVERNESS

the quay, which, though ſmall, is made ſafe and convenient. The principal buſineſs carried on here is the ſpinning of thread, making linen and woollen cloth for their own conſumption, and ſacking for exportation. Several large buildings have been erected for thoſe purpoſes, and much buſineſs is carried on in private houſes. On the north, near the town, are the remains of Oliver Cromwell's Fort, the ramparts of which are of earth. Three of the baſtions are ſtill remaining. This fort was well ſituated, for it commands the whole town, and might at any time be ſurrounded by water. Several of the factory houſes are now built within it, and a part of it forms the baſon for the reception of veſſels. On the ſouth ſide of the town, on an eminence, ſtood old Fort-George, taken and blown up by the Highlanders in 1746. Juſt below this place is a handſome bridge of ſeven arches over the River Neſs. Several places round Inverneſs command beautiful views, particularly a hill covered with firs called Tomnaheurich. From this hill you may ſee the whole town, the Murray-Firth, the River Neſs, and a variety of neighbouring mountains. There is a good deal of corn raiſed round Inverneſs, particularly oats and beans. The ſoil is light and ſandy, and there are great complaints here of the want of rain. The diſtance between Fort-William and Inverneſs is but fifty miles; yet the climate is very different, and may be accounted for as follows: the mountains on the ſouth-weſt, from which the rain generally comes, are ſo exceedingly high, that the clouds are arreſted,

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and ſhed among them the greateſt part of their moiſture. Thoſe weſtern mountains are alſo ſo ſtrangely formed, and heaped up to the ſky in ſo many perpendicular points, that they naturally occaſion eddies round them, and draw the wind in various directions, making as it were a kind of vortex: ſo that the clouds cannot poſſibly eſcape them. By this means the eaſtern part of Scotland, which lies in their direction, is prevented from receiving the quantity of rain by which it would otherwiſe be watered. This part of the country, at preſent, bears evident marks of drought, from Loch-Neſs all the way to the eaſtward, while every part of the Weſt Highlands is refreſhed with rain even in ſuperabundance.

The iſland of Great Britain, between Fort-William and Inverneſs, aſſumes a form that is very extraordinary and curious. It is deeply indented on either ſide, and nearly divided by water, which is moſtly, and might eaſily be made navigable all the way. But a conſiderable commerce alone could make a return ſuitable to the expence of doing ſo. Loch-Neſs, Loch-Oich, and Loch-Lochy, which are all navigable, might eaſily be united with each other, by canals, and form a communication between the two ſeas. The land which ſeparates theſe lochs is low, and a canal might eaſily be made from one to the other. The vale, from Inverneſs to Fort-William, is bounded by high mountains on each ſide, and from both the weſtern and the eaſtern

point

point of view, exhibits the appearance of the iſland having formerly been here interſected by water.

The people of Inverneſs ſpeak both Erſe and Engliſh; the latter with remarkable purity: partly becauſe they learn it not from vulgar converſation, but by book as we do Greek and Latin; and partly, it is ſaid, becauſe Engliſh garriſons, from the times of Cromwell, have in a great meaſure given the tone, in reſpect of diction and pronunciation, to the neighbourhood of this natural barrier between the northermoſt and the middle diviſion of Scotland. It is almoſt ſuperfluous, after what has already been obſerved, to ſay, that the country around Inverneſs is not ſo fit for agriculture, as for paſture. The grain raiſed in the vicinity of this town ſcarcely ſuffices for the inhabitants: but fifty thouſand head of black cattle, it is computed, are driven annually from the northern counties of Inverneſs, Roſs, &c. into England. The people here do not want induſtry, as appears from their manufactures, and the cultivated circle of land around them: which would be extended, and add beauty as well as fertility to the lower parts of the hills and mountains, if their efforts in agriculture were not damped by an extreme ſcarcity of fuel: for the moſſes are greatly worn out; and when coals, loaded with the impolitic duty already mentioned, are brought from the Frith of Forth, lime is burnt at a great expence.

Though

Though almoſt the whole of Inverneſs-ſhire, and a very great proportion of the neighbouring Counties of Roſs and Sutherland be one continued ſcene of mountains, the land on the coaſts of the Dornoch, Cromarty, and Murray Firths is remarkable for the kindlineſs of the climate and ſoil, which is adapted to all kinds of grain, and with proper culture produces more abundant, and, in Murray, earlier crops, than moſt parts in the South of Scotland or the North of England. The lowneſs of the land, the near vicinity of the waters on every hand, and the vegetable mould waſhed down, in the lapſe of ages by great rivers, account for the warmth of the air and the fertility of the ſoil in thoſe parts: as well as for the circumſtance that the banks of the Dornoch, Cromarty, and interior parts of the Murray Firth are more genial ſtill, than the plains of Murray; which, again, enjoy the advantage of a clearer ſky, and are leſs ſubjected than any part of Scotland, perhaps, to the dominion of ſuperabundant rain. It is needleſs to remark, that it is towards the ſea-coaſt that the Province of Murray including Nairne, is moſt fertile; and that, as it falls backward to the inland and hilly region, the corn-land is frequently intermixed, and at laſt exchanged for moor and moſs.

But, before I leave Inverneſs it may be proper to obſerve, that the ſcarcity of corn in the country around this picturesque capital of the Highlands is well illuſtrated by a circumſtance, which to the inhabitants will doubtleſs appear ſomewhat

what trivial, but which, in the eye of a ſtranger, is not a little curious. It is common in thoſe ſpots that, amidſt moſſes and hills, are here and there covered with corn, to ſtart a number of domeſtic fowls, like a covey of partridges. Theſe creatures, which travel many a mile for ſuch a repaſt, and like the cattle of the country, do not find ſuſtenance within a narrow compaſs, being equally lean and vigorous, will ſpring into the air, and fly over an incredible ſpace, cackling like a parcel of wild geeſe.

In Roſs-ſhire, I was told, as in other Counties, there is a very marked diſtinction between the inhabitants of the mountains and thoſe of the plains, with regard to religion. The former, though they pay the utmoſt reſpect to the ceremonies, and yield unbounded faith to the doctrines taught by the Miniſter, as far as they can comprehend them, yet have nothing of that fanaticiſm and religious melancholy about them, or ſpirit of dogmatiſm and diſputation, which is every where found in the Low Country of Scotland: except among the ſmugglers in Ayrſhire, the iron manufacturers at Carron, and the farmers and country people in ſuch fertile diſtricts as the Merſe, the Lothians, and the Carſes; where hearty food, open air, and variety of occupation happily conſpire to engender good health and briſk ſpirits. Indeed the bulk of the Highlanders are precluded from the conteſts and dogmata of metaphyſical theology by the ſimplicity of their language, which knows little or no-

thing of abſtracted terms, and conſiſts chiefly in metaphors taken from natural objects. The Miniſter, in his diſcourſes on the doctrinal points in the Chriſtian ſyſtem is obliged to uſe a great deal of circumlocution. For example, in treating the ſubject of adoption, for which there is no word in Gâlic, any more than there is for ſanctification, &c. &c. he has recourſe to the relation that ſubſiſts between children and foſter-fathers; a relation well known in the Highlands: where the children of the Gentlemen often grow up in the families of their nurſes, whom they conſider as mothers, and whoſe huſbands they regard as their fathers. This confidence and attachment on the part of the youth is returned with intereſt by the affectionate foſter-father and foſter-mother, who are often known to give them an equal portion of their ſubſtance with their own children.

About twenty years ago, the Sandemanians, or Glaſſites as they are called in Scotland, ſent miſſioners from their head quarters Perth and Dundee, to convert the Highlanders in Athol and Braid Albin to the leading maxims of their ſect. The Highlanders very plainly told them, that they were well enough contented with their own religion, and gave themſelves no trouble about any ſuch matters. When the miſſioners deplored their ſpiritual blindneſs and the hardneſs of their hearts, they returned their pious zeal with jeſts and laughter. Not ſo much as one convert did the Sandemanian brethren make in all the Highlands of Perthſhire:

ſhire: but, on the contrary, their ſucceſs was great among the ſolitary and ſedentary weavers and ſhoe-makers in the villages, in the Low Country, through which they returned. When they made the report of their labours to the congregation, they declared their conviction that nothing ſhort of a miracle could convert a Highlander.

Saturday, 16th July. We leave Inverneſs, and ride fifteen miles, part of it over Culloden Moor. Paſs by Culloden-houſe, the ſeat of Mr. Forbes, and the ruins of Caulder-Caſtle, the ſeat of Mr. Campbell of Calder. It is built on a rock waſhed on the Weſt by a rapid brook; the other ſides having a dry ditch, with a drawbridge at the entrance. There is nothing remarkable in this fabric, except the tower, which is very antient: and, what is very ſingular, in the loweſt part of it, there remains the trunk of a hawthorn tree, which ſtill appears to be ſound, reaching from the ground to the top of the arch built around and over it. At the root of the tree, there is a copious ſpring of water. In one of the apartments they ſhew you an old bedſtead made of oak, and ornamented with rude ſculpture, which they tell you is the individual bedſtead on which King Duncan lay when he was murdered by Macbeth. Concerning the time when it was removed from Inverneſs, where the murder of that good Prince was committed, tradition is ſilent. Nature has been very bountiful to this place, both in wood and water. Its elevated ſituation, commanding a

beautiful proſpect of the Murray Frith, renders it the moſt pleaſing reſidence of any in this part of the Country; the noble manſion of the Earls of Murray, at Tarnaway, renowned for its ſpacious wood and hall, and the proſpect at once of Findorn-bay and the Murray Frith, alone excepted. About two miles to the South-weſt of this, we obſerve another antient ſeat, with a lofty tower at one end, called Kilravack-Caſtle, belonginging to the antient family of the Roſes. It is ſituated about 200 yards from the river of Nairn, on the weſt ſide, on a rock. The verdure and regularity of the gardens intervening between the caſtle and the river, are ſtrongly contraſted by a black and barren mountain directly facing it, on the other ſide. Near this place, about twenty yards above the preſent bed of the River Nairn, is an immenſe maſs of rock, of a circular form, and at leaſt ſixty yards in circumference, ſupported by two fragments of the ſame ſubſtance. It is clear from the ground, and has the appearance of being placed in this ſituation by the contrivance of man; though its magnitude is ſuch as to render ideas of this kind ridiculous. The ſtriking ſimilarity between this phenomenon and the famous Stonehenge and the Bullers of Buchan, points to the operation of the ſea as the common cauſe of them all. It would be inexcuſeable, in a Tour that has, for one of its principal objects, the ſtate of cultivation, to paſs by, unnoticed, the ſeat of a gentleman about two miles farther up the river, who has done more towards the improvement of the country,

than

than any individual, perhaps, in the North of Scotland, if we except the late Earl of Findlater. A fortune fairly acquired in buſineſs is expended by Mr. Davidſon, with equal taſte and patriotiſm, in converting bleak and barren moors into lively and fertile incloſures. Part of thoſe mountains whoſe horrid appearance ſerve as a contraſt to the gardens of Kilravack, are oppoſite to Cantray, covered to the very ſummits with young pines, and various kinds of trees. The blowing up of rocks, the burning of lime, the making of ditches and drains, and trenching of ground, &c. has doubtleſs been attended with immenſe expence. But, though Mr. Davidſon may not, his ſon certainly will reap, and that in an ample manner, the fruits of his labour and perſeverance. It would be endleſs to enumerate the various modes of improvement which have been proſecuted by this Gentleman with vigour, for upwards of twenty years, at an expence, it is ſaid, of more than thirty thouſand pounds. Were every land-holder to follow, as far as lay in his power, the example of Mr. Davidſon of Cantray, the face of the country, in thirty years, would be materially changed. It is with great pleaſure that I can rank among the foremoſt improvers, the Nobleman who may naturally be ſuppoſed to have the greateſt attachment and intereſt in this diſtrict of North-Britain. The Earl of Murray, in the vaſt foreſt of Tarnaway, already mentioned, has planted not fewer than twelve millions of fir and other foreſt trees. When the firs are about twenty years old, he cuts down avenues through

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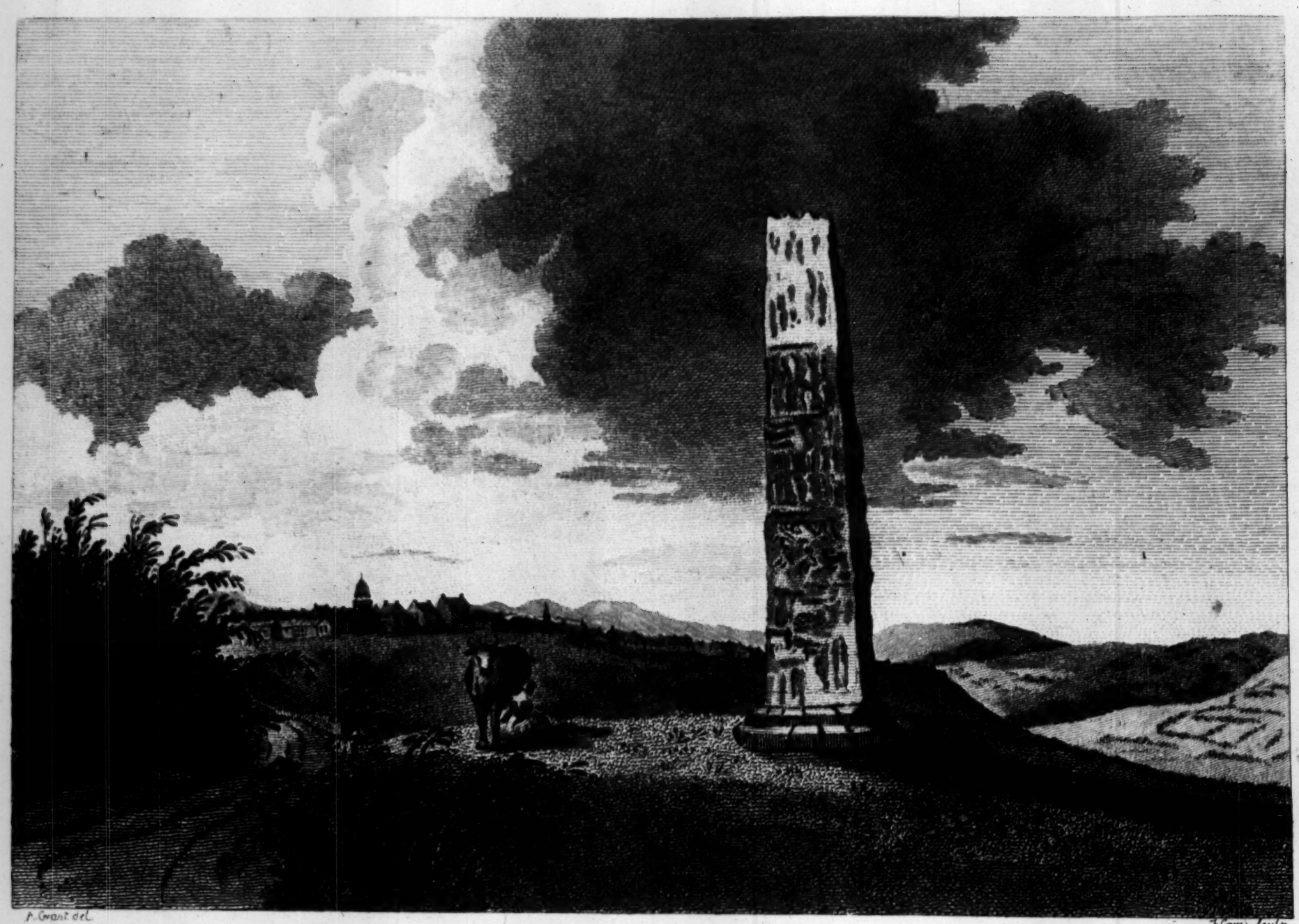
the plantations, which he fills up with oaks, and other trees, of greater value, but more difficult to be raiſed in northern and alpine climates than their pinal predeceſſors. Theſe he exports in great quantities, and to good advantage, from the port of Findorn to Newcaſtle and Sunderland, where, it ſeems, they are of uſe in the coal-mines. The Gentlemen of Murray, and the adjacent Counties, imitating the example of the Earl, begin to make plantations of fir nurſeries for wood of other kinds.

On the road, eaſtward from Inverneſs, we have a very good view of Fort-George, a ſtrong and regular fortreſs. The barracks here are handſome, forming ſeveral good ſtreets and ſquares. This fort is ſituated on a low and narrow neck of land, running into the Murray Frith, and completely commands the entrance into the harbour.

The land between Inverneſs and Nairn is quite low and ſandy. Nairn is a ſmall town, ſituated on an eminence near the ſea. The houſes are built of ſtone, and ſome of them pretty good. The north-weſt end of the town is compoſed of miſerable Highland huts: and here they ſpeak Gâlic; though in the oppoſite end of the Town the language of the natives be Engliſh. Many boats belong to the people of this town, the principal employment of the men being fiſhing. The boats are large, and, from their conſtruction, capable of bearing a great deal of ſail. They are made ra-

ther



P. Grant del.

F. Cary Sculp.

FORRES

ther ſharp before, and continue their breadth nearly to the ſtern. This is a good country for corn; but the ſoil being ſandy, the want of rain has kept the crops very backward.

Sunday, 17th July. Ride moſt part of the way, on the beach, by the ſea-ſide to Forres, a ſmall well-built town, pleaſantly ſituated near ſome little hills, and, as it lies on an eminence, capable of being kept very clean. The country about it has a chearful appearance, having a few gentlemen's ſeats, with ſome plantations about them. Among theſe is the manor-place of the Barony of Brodie; a large and convenient manſion, adorned with various improvements: incloſures, planting, ſtately avenues, viſtas cut through the adjacent wood, &c. It is remarkable, that neither written record, nor oral tradition, mentions that theſe lands ever owned the ſway of any other proprietors than thoſe of the name of Brodie. In the Province of Murray are ſeveral families of high antiquity, and who boaſt of Royal Blood as well as favour: the Cummins, Dunbars, Duffs, Morays, and Stewarts, and perhaps one or two more.

On a hill Weſt of the town are the remains of a caſtle, and a melancholy view of a number of ſand-hills, that now cover that tract of land which was formerly the eſtate of Mr. Duff, of Culbin, in the pariſh of Dyke. This inundation was occaſioned by the influx of the ſea, and the violence

violence of the wind. It had been the cuſtom to pull up the bent, a long ſpiry graſs, near the ſhore, for litter for horſes, by which means the ſand was looſened, and gave way to the violence of the ſea and wind, which carried it over ſeveral hundred acres of land. The people having been prevented from pulling up any more of the graſs, the progreſs of the ſand is now nearly ſtopped, and the ſea has retired: but the wind has blown ſome of the ſand from the hills over Colonel Grant's land, and deſtroyed near one hundred acres. A ſand-bank, which is all dry at low water, runs out from this place for ſeveral miles, into the Murray-Frith. Some of the land, which has been long forſaken by the water, is now beginning to be uſeful again, and is turned into grazing land.

I ſhall here beg leave to ſubmit to my readers the following obſervations relating to the formation of the land on the Murray Frith in general.

The great chain of mountains, known by the name of the Grampians, run from Loch Lomond to the ſea, between Aberdeen and Stonehaven.

Theſe mountains approach ſomewhat inland to others which, after various ſmall interſtices, draw, as it were, a line from Culloden Moor, near Inverneſs, to the ſouth of Forres and Elgin, and onward to the River Spey, where

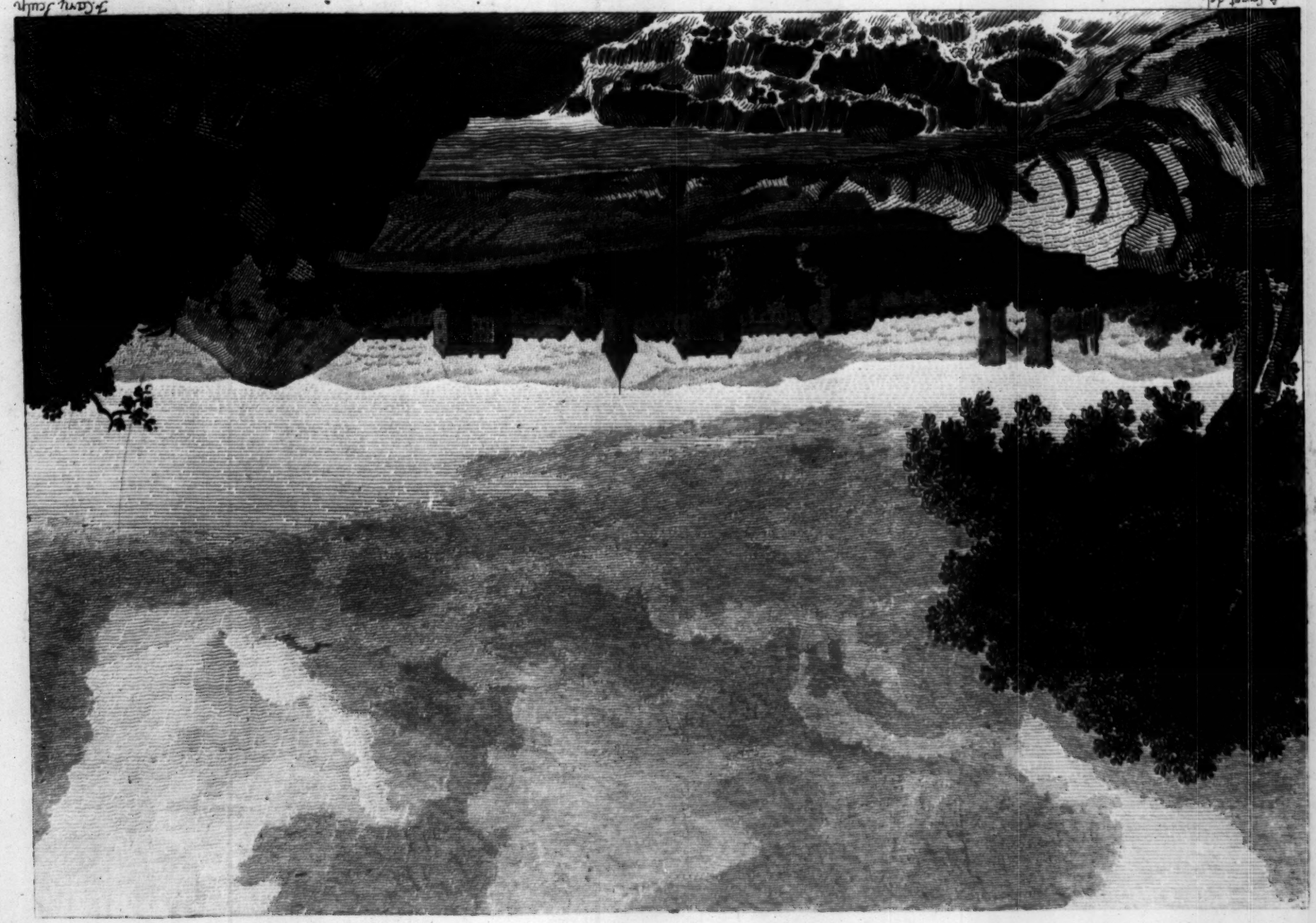
where a ſmall ridge of high ground runs down towards Fochabers. The coaſt eaſtward of Spey, along the Murray Frith, is, in general, fenced with a rocky ſhore as far as Slains Caſtle: as well as that on the oppoſite ſhore from Tarbatneſs to the Ferry of Keſſock. The coaſt of the Murray Frith again from Speymouth to Fort-George is entirely a ſandy ſoil, and, as far inland as the line of high ground, from Culloden-Moor to Spey, juſt mentioned: that is, from ſix to eight or ten miles in breadth. The tides then ſetting in from South to North, after paſſing the rocky and winding ſhore from the Buchanneſs to Spey, tumble immediately down into the Murray Frith: but being checked by the rocky and high coaſt of Roſs-ſhire and Sutherland, on the oppoſite ſhore, are again driven back, and, circumvolved in one great eddy, depoſite their ſediment on the South ſhore of the Murray Frith. In this way, the thin, early, forcing, and ſandy ſoil of Murray, which is in many places ſtill varying, appears to have been formed.

The tides of the Firth of Bewlie, which runs in a North-weſterly direction from Fort George, together with the operation of the rivers of Bewlie and Neſs, which run into it, have formed the ſhores of that beautiful little country, known by the name of the Aird. Theſe rivers, which run very ſtrong, meeting the tides of the Murray Frith, and the waters of both, which are rolled around in the Frith of Bewlie, being repelled by the bold and rocky ſhores of Roſs-

ſhire on the North, we have, as might be expected, a long, narrow, tongue of land, compoſed entirely of ſand and gravel, running into, and almoſt interſecting the Firth, and tapering off, at its northern extremity, into a point at Fort-George. On the Weſt of this narrow tract we have the Bay of Petty; and on the Eaſt, the larger Bay of Nairne. It is to ſimilar operations of both tides and rivers that we are to aſcribe the origin of the Coaſt of Airſhire, the Carſes, or Low-lands of Goury, Stirling, Clackmannan, &c. and probably, of all bays and vallies whatever.

At Forres, coarſe linen and ſewing-thread are made. About a mile from the town, on the left-hand ſide of the road, is a ſtone about twenty-five feet high, called King Sweno's Stone, erected by the Scots in memory of the final retreat of the Danes. On a moor, about four miles further, Shakeſpear places the rencounter of Macbeth and the Wierd Siſters; and it is judiciouſly choſen, for all the old women, of the lower claſſes, in this part of the country, have the appearance of midnight hags. They only want the cauldron and the broom-ſtick to compleat them for the ſtage: though it is ſaid that the ladies of Murray-ſhire are far from being deficient in either perſonal or mental accompliſhments. In our way from Forres to Elgin, paſs by the ruins of Kinloſs-Abbey, founded by David I. in 1150. Near this place Duffus, King of Scotland, was ſaid to be murdered by thieves. All the country between Forres and Elgin is very barren; moſtly

ELGIN



moſtly black heath and ſand mixed with gravel. In ſome places there is a tolerable crop of beare, a poor ſort of barley, and oats: but the ground much in want of rain. Near Elgin is a large moor, or moſs, which the poſſeſſor is draining; by which he employs a great number of people, and in time may probably reap ſome benefit to himſelf. For where a moſs grows over ſand, it may, in a few years, be brought into good grazing land. About half a mile from Elgin is a very large plantation of firs and ſmall oaks, called Quarry-wood.

Elgin, a town about the ſize of Forres, has a few good houſes in it. Of the cathedral, a very beautiful old ruin, part of two towers, the weſt entrance and the chancel, ſtill remain, though much mutilated. There is enough to ſhew the exquiſite workmanſhip, with which it was formed, and whoever ſees it, muſt lament the rude violence of the reformers, that reduced it to deſolation. The ornaments ſtill viſible on thoſe venerable remains are executed in the higheſt ſtile of relief: the flowers and foliage being often raiſed entirely from the hollow of the mouldings in which they run. The Cathedral of Elgin, as well as the town, is ſaid to have been deſtroyed by Alexander Stewart, Earl of Buchan, in 1362. This Earl was called by the clergy the Wolf of Murray, and the Wolf of Badenoch. On the Weſt end of the town, on a hill, ſtood an old caſtle, which, from

its ſituation, would command the town. Of this ſtructure a few heaps of ſtones only are remaining.

The people here, as in all the little towns on this coaſt from Inverneſs, are employed in making thread and linen, as well as woollen cloth, chiefly for their own uſe. All theſe towns, Inverneſs, Nairn, Forres, and Elgin, have a very diſmal appearance, being built of dark ſtone; nor can they claim the merit of being clean; and Elgin, in filthineſs, exceeds them all.

A few miles up from Elgin, in a beautiful ſequeſtered valley, ſtands the Abbey of Pluſcardin, renowned in this part of the country, for its fruit trees. I have been repeatedly told that the beſt fruit trees in Scotland are found in the gardens of the old religious houſes; and that they are all planted on circular cauſeways of flat ſtones. This practice, which appears, at firſt ſight, to be rather a charm than any part of rural œconomy, was founded on a phyſical cauſe. The bed of ſtone prevented the roots of the trees from ſtriking downwards, gave them a horizontal direction, and brought them into a wider contact, than they would have otherwiſe felt, with the genial mould at the ſurface of the earth, fertilized by the influences of Heaven. It is in a ſimilar, though inverſe ratio, that vines, and other fruit-bearing ſhrubs and trees, are greatly improved by checking

their

their perpendicular growth, and leading them by eſpaliers along the ground.

It has been thought very remarkable, and deemed ſomewhat unaccountable, that the mountainous and poor Kingdom of Scotland ſhould have poſſeſſed a greater number of religious edifices and endowments, and many of theſe ſumptuous and magnificent, than ſome other countries in Chriſtendom of equal extent and much greater wealth and natural fertility. So great is the intricacy of that chain which, amidſt the inextricable labyrinth of human affairs, binds the effect to the cauſe, that a thouſand circumſtances are followed by conſequences, the very reverſe of thoſe which they ſeem naturally calculated to produce. The poverty of Scotland, and its remote ſituation "amidſt the iſles afar off," rendered it a fit ſubject of religious charity and zeal. Contributions were made, at the Pope's deſire, for religious foundations in Scotland, and the adjacent Iſles; and even Ireland experienced the happy effects of that paternal ſpirit with which the Roman Patriarchs embraced every corner of the Chriſtian fold. Expert artiſts were ſent into the ſeats of barbariſm for the conſtruction of cathedrals, monaſteries, &c. and ſums of money remitted annually for their ſupport. The time has, at length, happily arrived, when we may be permitted to acknowledge our obligations to the Romiſh Church for many temporal at leaſt, if not ſpiritual bleſſings. It is to the Monks, more

than

than to any other ſet of men, that the nations of Europe, the moſt remote from Italy, the center of the ſciences and the arts, owe their moſt important leſſons and examples in both agriculture and mechanics.

A few miles below Elgin, on a promontory running into the ſea, ſtands the Burgh of Moray, a ſtation of the Danes, where they, for ſome time, maintained a ſettlement. This head-land, approaching to the form of an iſland by Nature, was wholly inſulated by the Danes about the beginning of the eleventh century, and became one of the moſt noted places of rendezvous for the northern pirates. The triple ditch and rampart, which defended the neck of the peninſula, are yet entire. Theſe, with an immenſe mound of earth and ſtones ſurrounding the area of the fort, will long evince its former ſtrength, and the labour beſtowed in order to make it impregnable. Half-burnt logs of oak, and other veſtiges prove, that this ſtrong hold was deſtroyed by fire. Whether this was the *caſtra alata* of the Romans, as ſome ingenious Authors have alledged, or no, we do not pretend to determine.

In the road to Fochabers we paſſed through ſeveral miles of corn-land, the crops Scotch barley and oats, with ſome few acres of wheat and rye. The country here is in general flat; though here and there ſmall hills, of different figures and dimenſions, ſtart abruptly out of the plain. Moſt

of

of theſe the Lord of the ſoil has encloſed and planted, apparently with Scotch firs: but with theſe a variety of other trees are intermixed; to which the firs will in time give way. Theſe plantations, caught by the eye at different points and diſtances, in riding along, contribute greatly to enliven the varying proſpect.

This mode of training up foreſt trees, as it were, in a nurſery of firs, forms a happy contraſt to the very injudicious manner in which the Scots made their plantations formerly: for which I cannot account in any other way than by conſidering it as the effect of paſſion. They have been continually ridiculed by the Engliſh for having no trees in their country. Some men, therefore, determined to be laughed at no longer, have gone home, and inſtead of planting a variety of trees, and placing them ſo as to be a ſcreen to the land, and an ornament to the country, have turned great portions of their eſtates into foreſts of Scotch firs, which are but ugly trees at beſt, and which grow ſo nearly of a height, and are placed ſo cloſe together, that the country ſtill looks at a diſtance as if there was not a tree in it.

About ſix miles from Elgin enter between two very extenſive plantations of firs and other trees newly planted, upon a dry ſandy ground covered with ſhort heath: the index of ſterility. Theſe plantations are the property of the Duke of Gordon and the Earl of Fife, the extremities of their

their great eſtates in this corner. An avenue running through the middle of the encloſures marks the boundary of each. The ſoil from hence to the River Spey is ſandy, with a great deal of uncultivated heath lands.

Croſs the Spey at Fochabers, where there are good ferry-boats, but no bridge. Three-fourths of the courſe of this river is the moſt rapid in Scotland; but, through Badenoch it runs ſo dead as to ſtagnate into a lake. It glides gently through Strathſpey, from whence to the ſea it is one continued torrent, and in floods commits great depredations. At the ferry, and a conſiderable way above it, the bed or channel of the Spey is confined within certain bounds on the North-Weſt ſide by a high red cliff, on which it ſpends its utmoſt force in vain: but on the oppoſite ſide, where the ſoil is a looſe gravel, the Duke of Gordon, in order to preſerve his park, and even his caſtle, has been at a conſiderable expence to confine it by bulwarks of driven piles, both oppoſite to that rock, and ſo far below as to direct the body of the river clear of the park. But from hence to the ſea, a diſtance of four miles, the Spey occaſionally overruns a tract of ground of about fifteen hundred acres, and renders it entirely uſeleſs: which is the more to be lamented, that this land, ſecured againſt inundation, would fetch about twenty ſhillings an acre. To compenſate, in ſome meaſure, this loſs, the ſalmon fiſhings on this river are very conſiderable. The Duke's fiſhing is rented by Mr. Richardſon, of Perth, and

Mr.

Mr. James Gordon, of Portſoy, at the yearly rent of fifteen hundred pounds; and the fiſhings belonging to the other heritors of the Spey, above this, may be worth a few hundreds more.

At Fochabers is Gordon-Caſtle, a very large and elegant building. The center of the houſe is old. The north-eaſt front is regular. The ſouth-weſt front has a ſquare tower in the middle, which is conſiderably higher than the top of the houſe. The wings, which are new, are very elegant. The whole front is an extent of more than five hundred and fifty feet, and has upwards of one hundred and twenty windows. The higher parts of the building, towering amidſt the fine old trees in the park, which have been planted in the Dutch taſte, preſent to all the Country around an image of magnificence. The ſituation of the houſe is low, and rather damp. The park, which is very extenſive, is ſtocked with ſeveral hundreds of fallow deer. The walks and pleaſure ground, which have been but lately made out, are of great extent, as well as variety. Thoſe on the Holly Bank are exceedingly ſtriking; commanding fine views of the caſtle, and the River Spey, and at every turn preſenting you among other objects, with beautiful groupes of holly trees, which, on the whole, are eſteemed the fineſt of the kind any where to be met with. The hills above the houſe are all planted with fir.

As to the inſide of the houſe, I can ſay nothing. The Ducheſs being at home, we did not chuſe to intrude upon her.

The old town of Fochabers conſiſts of miſerable huts, but a new one is begun, in which are ſeveral good houſes, and two tolerable inns. At this place there is an eſtabliſhment for making ſewing-thread, in which about fifty girls are employed.

Before we take leave of the Spey, we may remark that the extenſive region through which it runs, including the vallies that ſwell its rapid ſtream by their tributary waters, as well as Brae-Mar, and other diſtricts in its near vicinity, in the Shires of both Inverneſs and Aberdeen, abounds in moſt extenſive foreſts of ſtately fir-trees, ſome of them not inferior to thoſe of Norway. A fir wood, belonging to the Duke of Gordon, has been purchaſed by an Engliſh Company, who, by forming roads, have been enabled to convey it to the river, where it admits of rafts. They furniſh maſts for ſhips, as well as planks; and enliven what was formerly an howling and ſolitary foreſt, by various induſtry. In thoſe regions the character of the hills on the weſtern ſhores of Scotland, which are verdant at their baſe, and for ſome ſpace upward, is changed for ſullen heath and ſhaggy rocks; which, however, are the abodes of numerous herds of deer, and ſerve to ſet off the glens and vallies between them,

them, in the light of contraſt. The territories around the ſource of the Spey are, as might indeed be inferred, without any other proof, from their aptitude to produce the pine, form the higheſt land in Scotland, and, in the Highlands, the fartheſt removed from the ocean. It was alſo, as might have been expected, the lateſt in being peopled.

The Counties of Sutherland and Caithneſs, with Strathnaver, now annexed to Roſs-ſhire, were antiently inhabited by a people or tribe called Catti; the ſame people called alſo Cantæ, and Cantini, according to ſome writers, who firſt peopled Kent in England. Hence the name of Caithneſs, and hence Sutherland, in the Gâlic language, is called Cattey, and the people in both Counties Cattigh, to this day. The Catti of Caithneſs, forced to abandon their ſettlements by the frequent inroads of the Norwegians, took ſhelter with their flocks and herds, in the unoccupied regions of Inverneſs-ſhire and the contiguous diſtricts. From the Catti, or Clan Chattan, ſpring the Macintoſhes of thoſe parts, the Duffs, Shaws, Farquharſons, Macpherſons, Morays, &c. &c. but the moſt numerous Clan in Strathſpey is that of GRANT.

Strathſpey is celebrated for its reels: a ſpecies of muſic that happily unites gaiety with grace; moving now with meaſured ſtep and flow, and now at a quick and ſudden pace. Muſic in general, was divided by Macrimmon the

Piper, Principal of the Muſical College in the Iſle of Sky, into four kinds: Muſic for Love, Muſic for Sorrow, Muſic for War, and Muſic for Meat. By the laſt of theſe he muſt have meant Reels; among which the Strathſpey is as highly diſtinguiſhed among the Reels of the North-Highlands, the Iſlands, Argyleſhire and Perthſhire, as the plaintive melody of the Southern Counties, is among the ſlow tunes that aroſe in the other parts of the Lowlands of Scotland.

With regard to the firſt Compoſers, or even Performers of Strathſpey Reels, there are not any certain accounts. According to the tradition of the Country, the firſt who played them were the BROWNS of Kincardin: to whom are aſcribed a few of the moſt antient tunes. After theſe men, the Cummings of Freuchie, now Caſtle-Grant, were in the higheſt eſtimation for their knowledge and execution in Strathſpey Muſic; and moſt of the tunes handed down to us are certainly of their compoſing. A ſucceſſive race of Muſicians, like people of the ſame *caſte* in Hindoſtan, ſucceeded each other for many generations. The laſt of that name, famous for his ſkill in Muſic, was John Roy Cumming. He died about thirty years ago; and there are many perſons ſtill alive, who ſpeak of his performance with the greateſt rapture. The Cummings of London, known as the Authors of ſeveral mechanical inventions, and deſcended from thoſe Cummings of Strathſpey, are ſaid to inherit, in a high degree, the muſical powers of their anceſtors.

Among

Among the Muſical Compoſers, too, as well as Performers, we are to reckon Macpherſon, Author of the moſt affecting air, known by the name of Macpherſon's Lament, and compoſed in circumſtances of real diſtreſs and ſorrow. Before I quit my preſent ſubject, I ſhall juſt take notice, that the Strathſpey is to the common Scotch Reel what a Spaniſh Fandango is to a French Cotillon.

From Fochabers to Cullen is twelve miles, a very fine country all the way, and the crops of wheat, beare, and oats very flouriſhing and ſtrong. The ſoil, in this part of the country, has in it a conſiderable mixture of clay. Some fields of grey peaſe are ſown here, and ſeem to thrive very well. On this road there are a number of ſmall ſeats belonging chiefly to gentlemen of the name of Gordon.

Cullen is a ſmall poor town, without one good houſe in it, pleaſantly ſituated on the ſide of a ſmall hill, under which is Cullen-houſe, the ſeat of the Earl of Findlater, ſtanding on the edge of a glen. The plantations around it are very extenſive. The houſe is very large, as well as antient, but there are no good rooms in it, nor any pictures except a few tolerable portraits. To make amends for this, the library is extenſive, and enriched with many thouſand volumes of books, well choſen, and in ſplendid order. A bridge of one arch, of ſeventy feet high, is thrown over the glen juſt by the houſe, at the bottom of which runs a rapid ſtream.

In

In the evening paſs by Portſoy, a neat little town on a ſmall promontory running into the ſea. Portſoy was raiſed in a very ſhort time by manufactures and commerce. Its principal exports are corn, thread for ſtockings, ſalmon, herrings, and what we call white fiſh: and its chief imports in return, flax, wine, ſalt, wood, iron, and whatever other articles are required, either for home conſumption, or foreign trade.

Between Portſoy and Cullen, on a peninſulated rock, ſtands all that remains of the old caſtle of Findlater, which, in the pacific reign of James VI. was happily exchanged for the charming walks and pleaſure ground, the gardens, and fertile fields of Cullen. The maſſy ruins that cover the ſummit of the rock; the outer walls, particularly thoſe fronting the ſea, correſponding exactly with the face of the precipice; the ſtrongly-vaulted apartments; the walls and double ramparts that defended the iſthmus within which the caſtle ſtood: theſe remains will long continue to mark in characters more expreſſive than any terms the pen can deſcribe, the rudeneſs of former times, and the bleſſings of progreſſive civilization and improvement.

The country between Cullen and Bamff is well cultivated and encloſed, in ſome places, by ſtone dykes. It produces a great quantity of beare and oats, and a ſmall proportion of wheat and grey peaſe. The ſoil is remarkably good, and the

the effects of good huſbandry are very viſible. Moſt of the cottages, and all the farm houſes are built of ſtone, and covered with tiles or ſlate: a comfortable ſight, to which we have not been accuſtomed ſince we entered Scotland. The poor people in the weſtern part of it, are ſtill living in miſerable huts, a few of which are to be ſeen here.

Bamff is pleaſantly ſituated on the ſide of a hill, cloſe to the ſea. There are ſeveral ſtreets in it, and one which is very decent. The harbour is but indifferent. The ſalmon-fiſhing here, in the River Devon, amounts to 1000l. per annum. Near the town is Duff-houſe, the ſeat of the Earl of Fife, a very large pile of building, with a ſquare tower at each end. The front is richly ornamented with carving. The rooms are all ſmall, and the beſt apartments are not yet finiſhed. The plantation and walks about this houſe are laid out with more taſte and elegance, than any I have ſeen in Scotland. A beautiful river, called the Dive, runs through the grounds, and near the houſe is an elegant bridge over it, of nine arches, built by Government. All the neighbouring hills are covered with pine. Oppoſite to Bamff is a little town, called Macduff, belonging to the Earl of Fife, who is taking much pains to improve it, and is building a pier for the coaſting veſſels, which, when finiſhed, will be ſafe and commodious.

Tueſday, 19th July. Leave Bamff, and go through two ſmall

ſmall villages, called New Deer and Old Deer, to Peterhead. From Bamff to New Deer, about ſixteen miles. The land here belongs chiefly to Lord Fife; a great part of it is in a high ſtate of improvement. It is moſtly corn-land, though there is ſome fit for the fattening of cattle, to which uſe a part of it is applied. Many of the bullocks are ſo large, as to amount, when fattened, to the value of 25l. At Old Deer is the remains of an old abbey, and near it is held a large fair annually for cattle, for which they were preparing as we paſſed.

About ten miles North from Old Deer, on the left, is the Town of Fraſerburgh, ſituated on the promontory of Kinnaird's Head, which forms the entrance from the South to the Murray Frith. There is a good ſmall harbour here, with twelve feet water at ebb, and ſixteen feet at ſtream tides, which, by carrying the preſent piers out to the rocks called the *Ellie* and the *Inch*, a ſpace of no more than thirty yards, might be deepened to ſixteen feet at ebb, and twenty feet at ſtreams. Some ſmall veſſels belong to this port, which are employed in the Eaſt Trade, and in the White Fiſheries. On that head-land which projects in ſuch a manner as to cover entirely the harbour from the North, at the diſtance of three hundred yards from the Town, one of the northern light-houſes, with lamps and reflectors, is now erected; and were the improvements, juſt mentioned, made on the harbour, which might be done at a trifling expence, it would,

from

from its ſituation, become of great advantage as a wind-bound port, a thing which, on this coaſt, is much wanted. The Baltic, the Greenland, the St. David's Streights Trade paſs within ſight of this light-houſe and harbour. There is, at Fraſerburgh, a Chalybeate mineral of conſiderable ſtrength, and public rooms for company. Under the point called Kinnaird's Head, beyond all doubt the *promontorium taixalium* of the Geographer Ptolemy, is found the uſeful article of Fuller's Earth. This promontory has, by ſome been thought to be the Buchan-neſs: but the land from the Buchan-neſs ſtill runs North, whilſt from Kinnaird-Head it turns immediately Weſt; and the *promontorium taixalium* is deſcribed to be the turning point of land towards the Varar or Murray Frith.

I have already hazarded a conjecture concerning the formation of the land on the Bewlie and the Murray Frith, &c. I ſhall here take occaſion to obſerve, that around this bold head-land, the Natural Hiſtorian every where meets with proofs that there have been frequent conteſts for dominion between the land and the ſea. In the Bay of Fraſerburgh, about thirty years ago, on digging in the ſand within high water-mark, to open the courſe of a little river that runs into the Bay, and that had been chocked up with ſand, a tree of conſiderable length was diſcovered, with its roots and branches entire, at a conſiderable depth below the preſent ſurface. At this place, as well as in ſeveral

others on this Coaſt, moſs or peat turf, too, is found under the ſand. Near the promontory of Kinnaird's Head, is the Loch of Strath-beg, into which, according to a prevailing tradition, although it be now divided from the ſea by a ſandy and gravelly beach near a mile in width, the Dutch Fiſhers, about the time of the Acceſſion of James VI. of Scotland to the Throne of England, entered in purſuit of the herrings. On this lake formerly ſtood the Royal Burgh of Rattray, one of thoſe which were disfranchiſed becauſe the Burgeſſes declined the expence of their parliamentary repreſentation. There is not, at this time, ſo much as a village, or hamlet, or even a ſingle ruin, where the Town of Rattray ſtood. Mr. Jackſon, a London Gentleman, who has taken a leaſe of this piece of water, which meaſures 800 acres of fine ſoil, is now draining it. This is an example equally worthy of praiſe and imitation: for draining is a ſpecies of improvement much neglected in the North. And there are, beſides vallies, marſhes, &c. ſeveral lakes of conſiderable extent, and ſituated in fertile parts of the Country, which might be drained with great advantage, ſuch as Spiny in Murray, Skene near Aberdeen, Turin, Forfar in Angus, Loch-Levin near Kinroſs, &c. &c.

I cannot leave Fraſerburgh without relating a curious, and well-authenticated anecdote, which was urged in vindication of the Scotch diſtilleries, and which, although a few exceptions are not to be oppoſed to the pernicious tendency

dency of ſpirituous liquors, undoubtedly proves, that the phyſical as well as the moral nature of man is extremely verſatile, and accommodating to circumſtances and habits.

Baillie Ritchie, Magiſtrate of the Town of Fraſerburgh, died in 1783, in the 88th year of his age. He was, for the laſt fifty years of his life, in the uſe of getting drunk twice a day, on raw whiſky or gin. He eat heartily, though he took little or no exerciſe. He is computed to have drank, during the period of his inebriation, half a century, a quart of gin or whiſky per day. About five years before his death, he broke his arm. He never fevered with the fracture, and very ſoon recovered. He was a ſhort, and ſpare man, about five feet five inches in height. He enjoyed excellent health till the laſt hour of his life.

Two miles from Fraſerburgh ſtands a caſtle, now called Cairnbulg, built in the Twelfth Century, and which was, within a very few years back, inhabited, and entire. It is ſituated on the bank of a ſmall rivulet, at the end of beautiful downs, or links, as they are in that Country called, which are upwards of a mile in length, green, and perfectly level. It was the manſion, or manor-place of the Barony of Philorth, formerly belonging to the antient Earls of Roſs, and now, by inheritance, to Lord Saltoun.

About three miles Weſt from Kinnaird's Head are the ruins of the Caſtle of Dundarg, ſo ably defended by Henry

de Beaumont, Lord of Buchan, againſt the forces of Robert Bruce: and near this place ſtand the two conical hills of Boyndlie, where there is the appearance of a ſmall crater. The whole of this part of Buchan abounds in lime-ſtone, and the rocks on the coaſt are partly iron ſtone. Towards Portſoy ſome good ſpecimens of marble are found. The Country along the coaſt between Fraſerburgh and Peterhead is well cultivated, and affords good crops of grain, of which, however, wheat makes but a ſmall part. From Old Deer, again, to Peter-head, a ſpace of ſixteen miles, the ſoil is a cold ſtiff clay: the crops very thin and backward.

Wedneſday, July 20. Peterhead is a neat little town, ſituated on a peninſula. It contains about 2,000 people. They have lately built a new pier, of granite, which coſt 8,000l. The harbour will now contain about twenty veſſels. They have twelve feet water at the Pier-head. The commerce here is very conſiderable to the Baltic and Dantzick, for deals, hemp, &c. Seventeen veſſels are employed in this and the coaſting trade, and three large ſloops are annually ſent to fiſh among the Weſtern Iſlands, or Hebrides, where they catch great quantities of cod and ling, which they ſalt, and ſell to the inhabitants of the Weſtern Highlands. There is a great deal of fiſh caught alſo at Peterhead and Fraſerburgh—near two thouſand barrels of cod annually, which is ſent to different towns on the coaſt, and ſome of it to London.

It is univerſally known that the Dutch, from their earlieſt exiſtence as a Republic, have been in the practice of fiſhing on the Scottiſh Coaſts. This practice, though hitherto tolerated, and I do not ſay improperly, has, as might have been expected, been a ſubject of diſcontent to our Northern neighbours. An Addreſs againſt the encroachments, as they were called, of the Dutch, was drawn up and ſigned by upwards of two hundred Highland Proprietors, to Geo. I. in 1714. This paper was prevented, through Court intrigue, from being delivered.

In May, 1786, about twenty Dutch buſſes came on the Coaſt of Buchan, where they remained above a fortnight, and not only fiſhed, but took up the accuſtomed grounds of the boats of the Country. On an enquiry, excited by this incident, no law or rule could be diſcovered, by which Dutchmen, or other Foreigners, are hindered from fiſhing on the Britiſh Coaſts. It would be better, it muſt be confeſſed, to drive the Dutch from our Coaſts, by emulating, and equalling at leaſt, if not excelling them, in the art of catching and curing fiſh, than by a barbarous appeal to arms.

At Peterhead is a very good mineral ſpring, which is conſidered as very efficacious in removing any complaint in the bowels. It operates as a very ſtrong diuretic. Near the ſpring is a very good Ball-Room, under which there are two

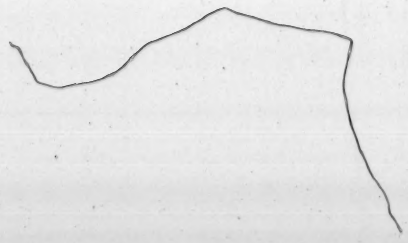
ſalt-water

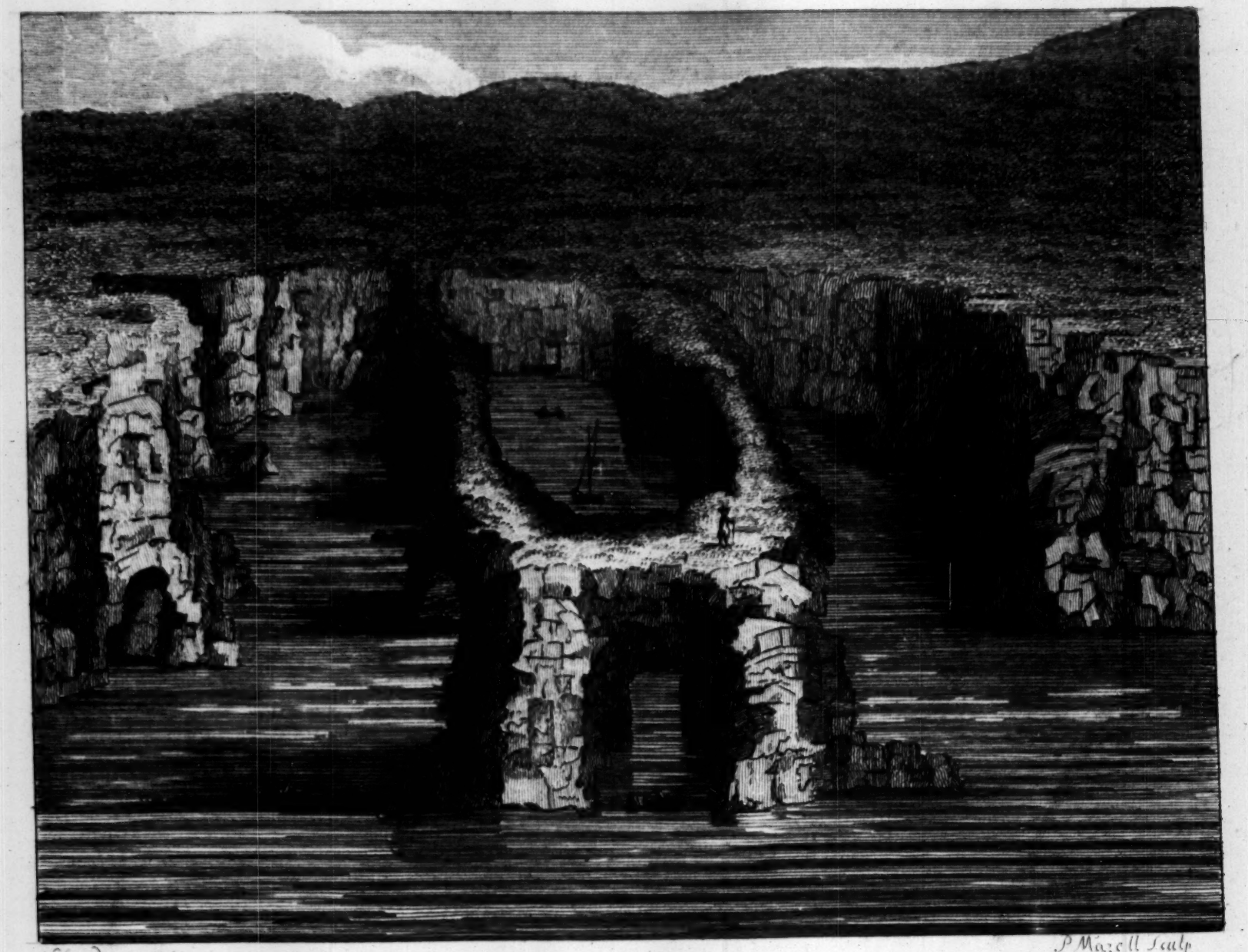
ſalt-water baths. In the ſeaſon, this is a place of polite reſort. The town is neat, and well built, and the inn a very good one. Eight hundred people are employed here, in a factory for ſewing-thread. The girls earn from five-pence to fifteen pence a day. The harbour is ſafe, and eaſy of acceſs. Turbot, weighing twenty pounds, are frequently ſold here for four-pence.

In the Town of Peter-head, on the Coinzie, or corner, is an old building, erected by the Lord Mariſchal on his return from Denmark, where he went for the purpoſe of conducting over into Scotland the Wife and Queen of James VI. of Scotland, and Firſt of England. It is an exact model of the King of Denmark's Palace at that day; but would not, at this, be looked on as either an elegant or a convenient manſion.

The Country, or diſtrict of Buchan, of which Peter-head may be conſidered as the capital, is flat, though of unequal ſurface: and here, like the *Wrekin* in Shropſhire, ſtands the hill of Mormond, from which the whole country is to be ſeen. Mormond, though not high, is, by way of eminence, called *The Hill:* and, juſt as in Shropſhire, "*All Friends around*" is a common toaſt. Similar cuſtoms every where ariſe out of ſimilarity of circumſtances and ſituation. The coaſt of Buchan, which projects much farther than any other part of Scotland into the German Ocean, has been frequently

ſubjected





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The BULLERS of BUCHAN.

ſubjected to Norwegian invaſions; although the traditional records of theſe have almoſt expired in the lapſe of time. A chain of cairns or heaps of ſmall ſtones, gathered and piled up together to a great ſize, may be traced from Cruden, near to Slane's Caſtle on the Eaſt, in a North-weſterly direction, beyond the Hill of Mormond, to the diſtance of about fifteen miles. The Danes, for ſo the Norwegians as well as Danes were then called, are ſaid to have landed at Cruden, and to have been forced back to their ſhips at Gemry. In that range, on a large plain called the Cairnmore, are three of thoſe cairns together, one of which was lately opened. The coffin of flat ſtones, containing ſome hundred bones of a very large ſize, was found in the bottom of the cairn: but nothing in the way of arms that could lead to any accurate inveſtigation of thoſe antiquities. Similar cairns of ſtones, heaped up above layers of flat ſtone-coffins, replete with human bones, are to be found all over the ſhores of Scotland, and mark, in a moſt expreſſive manner, both the extent of the Daniſh power, and the degree of reſiſtance that was made by the antient inhabitants.

From Peterhead go to Bowneſs, a ſmall fiſhing-town, where are the celebrated Bullers or Boilers of Buchan: great hollows in a rock projecting into the ſea, through which you may ſee the boats laying in a baſon below, which is a good harbour for them in bad weather. Theſe wonderful phenomena appear to have been ſo called from their being circular,

circular, open at the top, and divided from the ſea by a narrow and high rock, perforated by three grand arch-ways, through which the ſea pours into the awful cavern, an hundred yards in diameter, foaming and appearing to boil furiouſly up. The ſcenery around theſe natural arch-ways, of rock, water, ſea-fowl, &c. is truly majeſtic. The term Buller is evidently derived from the French *Bouilloir*.

Throughout the whole of the Low Country of Scotland, but eſpecially in the Southern Counties, there are a great many words of French origin. For inſtance, the ſluice of a mill, in the Low-lands of Scotland, is called the *cluſs*. This is evidently taken from the French *ecluſe*. A gooſeberry, in Scotch, is *grozier*; cinnamon is *cannelle*; a towel, or table-napkin, *ſerviette*; troubleſome, *fachious* from *fachieux*, &c. &c. Indeed moſt of the words uſed by the Lowland Scotch, not either Icelandic or Old Engli ſh, will, in general, be found to be French. In dreſs too, as well as in language, there is a ſtriking coincidence between thoſe of the country laſſes in Scotland, and the *jeunes payſannes* in France: as alſo between thoſe of the old women in both countries. The laſſes in Scotland, as in France, wear waiſtcoats or linders, reaching no farther down than the waiſt-band of the petticoat, called *jupe*, as in France, and ſhaped in the ſame manner, with tight long ſleeves coming down to the wriſt; and their hair turned back and bound round with a fillet or ſnood. The cap, called a toye, covering the whole of the head, and coming

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ing far forward on the face, as well as down over the ſhoulders, is the common head-dreſs of the elderly women, both in France, I mean not the towns, but the country, and in Scotland. The countrymen, in different parts of France, particularly in Gaſcogny, and on the borders of Spain, dreſs in the ſame manner that they do in Scotland, with ſhort coats and blue bonnets: which they pull off, like the Scots, before meals, and hold cloſe to their faces, by way of veils, during the time they are ſaying grace. In the ſame manner, on the ſame occaſion, the hamlet and village Spaniards, who are remarkably devout, diſpoſe of their hats.

About two miles South from the Bullers of Buchan, near the mouth of the River Ythan, is Slane's Caſtle, the ſeat of the Earl of Errol, a very old houſe, forming a quadrangle in the middle. It is ſituated upon the very brink of a rock, almoſt perpendicular from the ſea, entirely expoſed to the violence of the winds from the eaſtward, and, for more than two-thirds of its circumference, ſurrounded by water. In a ſtorm the waves of the ſea actually daſh upon the Caſtle, and the ſpray is wafted by the winds over the tops of the houſes into the garden, and adjacent fields; which, though the bottom be nothing elſe than ſolid free-ſtone, and the ſoil exceedingly thin, are of remarkable fertility, as well as of eaſy cultivation. Such is the romantic ſpot in which the Counteſs of Errol, almoſt, but not wholly inſulated from the world, trained up her lovely progeny, in all the Graces

and Virtues. Had ſo much beauty adorned any ſpot, on the ſhores of the Mediterranean, in the heroic ages of antiquity, Philologiſts would have ſworn, that it was no other than this circumſtance that gave birth to the fable of Venus ſpringing from the ocean.

On the acceſſible ſide of Slane's Caſtle, there was once a ditch and drawbridge; but now both are deſtroyed. Near the houſe are ſome remarkable rocks, on which thouſands of ſea-birds build their neſts. One of thoſe rocks forms a natural arch of at leaſt ſixty feet high. About half a mile North of the houſe is a mineral, which ſeems to have the ſame quality with that at Peterhead.

From Slanes we went to Ellan, a ſmall village where the Earl of Aberdeen has a houſe, with ſome tolerable plantations about it: but we were refuſed leave to walk through any of them, or to ſee the inſide of the houſe; the only inſtance of this ſort we have met with in Scotland. On the lofty banks of the Ythan, a few miles above Ellan, in a well-wooded and romantic ſituation, ſtands Haddo, the reſidence, and what gives title to Lord Haddo, the eldeſt ſon of the Earl of Aberdeen. A little way beyond Haddo, is Fyvie, the eſtate of General Gordon, who has planted woods, and with various ſhrubbery and foreſt trees covered glens and ravines; ſo as to give the whole Country around the moſt lively and picturesque appearance. Farther up the Country ſtill, in the

the Pariſh of Forgue, there is a little farm belonging to an Officer of the Army, who, in the ſpace of five or ſix years, has nearly executed a plan of improvements, which, at firſt had the appearance of too much ſingularity, but now begins to be imitated by the adjacent and neighbouring farmers. In this little ſpot, which does not exceed 150 acres, the arable is divided into a certain number of regular fields, by means of ſections and ſtrips of planting running acroſs the grounds. About forty acres originally barren, but now planted with a variety of young trees, ſurrounds the whole, like a mantle, for the benefit of cover from the weather. The ſmall neighbouring brooks he leads over his lea grounds in many pleaſant ſtreams; and if the duties of his profeſſion would permit his being more frequently upon the ſpot, it may be fairly ſuppoſed that he would ſhew ſtill ſtronger examples of the utility of water as a manure. Water, eſpecially water drawn from large ſources, properly uſed, would be found as great a treaſure to farmers, as it is in many inſtances to mechanics. It is the vehicle of the richeſt and moſt prolific of all dreſſings; it nouriſhes vegetation without exhauſting the ſoil; and it coſts but little, in compariſon with other ſpecies of manure, in the conveyance. If the inhabitants of Countries abounding with water were in the habit of conducting rivers both ſmall and great, to conſiderable diſtances, for agricultural purpoſes, they would ſoon be led to enterprizes ſtill more uſeful: though the bare mention of theſe, at the preſent moment, might, perhaps, among our

neighbours in Scotland, appear wholly viſionary. For the connection between commerce, agriculture, and inland navigation, if at all heard of in North-Britain, has been but little heeded. It may, however, be prognoſticated, as the advantages of Nature invite the attempts of art ſooner or later, that the connection juſt mentioned will be attended to. Were it otherwiſe, this part of the Iſland has been bleſſed with ſtreams of water, in a tenfold proportion, to little or no purpoſe. Providence never fails to be kind, but very often leaves ſomething to our own induſtry. To diſcern and to ſeize the proper point of union between nature and art, is the grand taliſman of human excellence and felicity.

The little, but highly cultivated ſpot that has occaſioned theſe reflections, is called Templeland, and is ſituated in the Pariſh of Forgue, about thirty miles from Aberdeen, and ſixteen from Bamff, in the near vicinity of Mr. Moriſon's of Bogny, a worthy Country Gentleman who, among other improvements, has inſtructed and duly encouraged his tenants to adorn, warm, and enrich their farms by plantations of timber.

The late Lord Dun, of the College of Juſtice in Scotland, in treating of economy in general, maintained, that half-pay Officers ought all to be ſettled upon farms. Chimerical as this opinion did then, and may now appear, the Hiſtory of the Romans, and other nations, with the practice of modern

dern Pruſſia, ſhews, that there is ſomething congenial between the profeſſion of arms, and that of agriculture. A military man, with equal parts, has undoubtedly greater opportunities of improvement in the extenſive field of information, through which he ranges, than a man who has never been farther into the great world than his county-town, and who has never, perhaps, met with any thing to excite his curioſity, or to engage his mind in reſearches of any kind. If proper encouragement were given to thoſe Gentlemen to ſettle in the Country as practical farmers, the half-pay, a very conſiderable ſum indeed! might, in that caſe, be conſidered as ſo much given by Government, either for colonizing the waſte lands of the kingdom, or bringing thoſe already occupied into a higher ſtate of cultivation.

On a long leaſe of Crown Land, an half-pay Officer might eaſily borrow whatever ſum might be neceſſary for its cultivation. The immediate produce would ſuffice for the maintenance of a moderate family: the half-pay would regularly diſcharge the annual intereſt of the borrowed money; and there would be a fair and growing proſpect of an ample return for all this pains and expenditure. The good effects of this management, ſoon apparent to every obſerver, would invite the joint proprietors of commons to let them on ſimilar terms; and thus, the example of the Crown, in Britain, as in China, would contribute to the promotion of agriculture.

I think

I think it capable of mathematical demonſtration, that, by a ſucceſsful colonization of half-pay Officers, and other perſons of agricultural ſkill and general information, on the waſte grounds within the kingdom, the Public, eſpecially if the increaſed population be conſidered, would make gains in a duplicate at leaſt, if not in a triplicate ratio of the ſums expended.

It may indeed be queſtioned, whether, by freſh encouragement judiciouſly extended to agriculture, the fiſheries, and every ſpecies of productive labour, the national debt would not be more rapidly and ſenſibly alleviated, than by any ſinking fund that is ſupported by oppreſſive taxation.

Taxes, it is evident, though incentives to induſtry, when moderate, are fatal to all enterprize when exceſſive. There is certainly a point in taxation, as in every thing elſe, beyond which it is impoſſible to proceed with ſafety.

Eſt modus in rebus, ſunt certi denique fines,
Quos ultra citraque nequit conſiſtere rectum.

But the critical point in taxation may arrive ſooner than we are aware: foraſmuch as the weight of accumulated taxes increaſes not in an arithmetical but a geometrical proportion; in the ſame manner that the fatigue of the weary traveller is more intolerable during the laſt five, than the firſt twenty

twenty miles of his journey. Exceſſive taxes, by increaſing, to an immoderate degree, the price of labour and of living, compel the manufacturer to migrate to other Countries, where labour, as well as ſubſiſtence, is cheaper.

It is indeed oppreſſion of ſome kind, that tranſports the arts from one Country to another, and ſpreads them, in every direction, as winds and tempeſts ſcatter the ſeeds of vegetable nature. The exaction of the twentieth, and even the tenth penny on all ſales, conſpired with religious tyranny to drive the Flemings from their own Country, in the Reigns of Philip II. of Spain, and our Elizabeth, into England. They imported to Canterbury, Maidſtone, Rocheſter, Colcheſter, Norfolk, Yarmouth, and other Towns on the Engliſh Coaſt oppoſite to the Netherlands, the woollen, and the iron manufactures. Theſe, as is well known, have migrated, and muſt continue to migrate northward, through England into Scotland. This, ſince the Union between Scotland and England, is not a matter that is to be regretted. But will the migration of manufactures be arreſted by the natural boundaries of this Iſland? The ocean, is well obſerved by an anonymous political writer, from whom I ſhall here make an extract worthy of public conſideration :——

——" The ocean that limits the territory of Britain, may, in the progreſs of our public exigencies and public impoſitions,

poſitions, only ſerve to excite the enterprize of the oppreſſed manufacturer, and to extend his views to other Countries: eſpecially in this enlightened age, when the natural rights of men are ſo generally underſtood and aſſerted, and when even arbitrary States have learned the connexion that ſubſiſts between wealth and induſtry, and induſtry and freedom.

"The ſcheme of paying the National Debt by taking from the one hand, and giving to the other, may juſtly be conſidered as a political ſophiſm. The Public is at once Debtor and Creditor. To impoſe taxes for the diſcharge of the public debt, puts one in mind of the Covetous Man in Moliere, who, chagrined beyond meaſure at the loſs of his money, and ignorant whom to accuſe of the theft, or where to apply for reſtitution, ſeizes his own left hand with the right, and cries out in a paroxyſm of paſſion, "and myſelf too! I will charge myſelf with the robbery."

As this is an important ſubject, and either untouched, or little inſiſted on by Financiers and Politicians, let us endeavour to illuſtrate it.

Firſt, It is univerſally allowed that the wealth of a nation conſiſts in its induſtry.

Secondly, That the exerciſe of ingenuity and enterprize in

in large undertakings or concerns, cannot have place without a capital.

Thirdly, The Sinking Fund may be conſidered as a capital laid out by the nation at very low intereſt, inſtead of being employed in trade and manufactures.

Fourthly, Beſides the difference between extremely low intereſt, and the immenſe returns of trade, there is, in the Sinking Fund, the expence of collection.

Fifthly, The object of the Sinking Fund is two-fold: firſt, the ſtability of public credit; ſecondly, the benefit of poſterity.

With regard to public credit, it will never be ſhaken while we can pay the intereſts of our debts, though we ſhould never diminiſh the principal: Even towards the end of the American war, Government was able to borrow more money than it wanted.

But, without a Sinking Fund, the very progreſs of time, if our manufactures and commerce continue to flouriſh, would alleviate the public burthen by a gradual depreciation in the value of money. At the firſt eſtabliſhment of a ſtanding army, the pay of a common ſoldier, ſixpence a day, was calculated and fixed, on the principle that the ſol-

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dier ſhould be placed on the ſame footing, with regard to income, with an ordinary mechanic, as a ſhoemaker, a taylor, &c. who, from 1633 to 1660, the period when the two oldeſt regiments were raiſed, earned *per diem*, on an average, ſixpence. But an ordinary mechanic, at this day, in any part of the Kingdom, can gain more than triple that ſum; and in the capital, and other places, more than ſix times. The medium, therefore, is, that from the period juſt mentioned to the preſent, the value of money has decreaſed three fourth parts of its value. Now, as commerce continues, where it is proſperous, to increaſe in a kind of geometrical proportion, the future decreaſe in the value of money may be expected to be extremely rapid: ſo rapid, indeed, as to elude calculation.

Even if it were certain that a Sinking Fund, though oppreſſive to the preſent race, would nevertheleſs prove a bleſſing to poſterity, the queſtion of the Iriſhman might fairly be put, "I pray you, what did ever poſterity do for us?"—"Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof." But, in juſt calculation, a Sinking Fund, ſqueezed out of the People, is not a benefit, but a loſs to poſterity. It tranſmits to our ſucceſſors a depreciated ſum of money or capital, inſtead of the fruits of the labour which this capital would now purchaſe. It is as if an Engliſh manufacturer ſhould ſend to his friend in Tombuctoo or Acapulco, guineas or other golden coins inſtead of Britiſh manufactures. It is, as if a landholder

landholder or farmer, inſtead of improving his eſtate or farm, ſhould lock up, for the benefit of his grand-children, his guineas, crowns, and half-crowns, in his ſtrong-box. The concluſion to be drawn from all this reaſoning, is, that we ſhould let this weight of the public debt alone. It is a maxim in phyſics, that the *momentum* of bodies depends on the *quantum* of their velocity multiplied into that of their matter. Dead preſſure is next to nothing. This maxim holds, in ſome degree, in moral concerns. There is neither genius nor ſound ſenſe in haraſſing the nation for the eſtabliſhment of a Sinking Fund. It would be wiſe policy, inſtead of impoſing unneceſſary burthens, to remove taxes, wherever their weight affects induſtry. If there be a ſurplus revenue after this, apply it in bounties, or in any way that may beſt promote general and productive exertion. Be careful of one thing, never to add to the National Debt. Let the Supplies, even on new and great emergencies, be raiſed boldly within the year: from which this great advantage would ariſe, that no Adminiſtration could carry on any project, whether of peace or war, without the general concurrence of the nation. It is not the debt already contracted, however great, that is the evil we have moſt reaſon to dread; but the aptitude of all Miniſters to impoſe new taxes on every ſubject, that we ought to watch with a jealous eye. They lie in wait, on various pretences, to catch that money which, left as a capital in the hands of the people, would ſerve as a ſpur to general induſtry. Sound policy,

therefore, adopting the language of Spencer, ſpeaks to the Britiſh nation thus:

The very beſt that I can thee adviſe
Is to remove th' occaſion of the ill;
For when the cauſe when miſchief doth ariſe
Removed is, th' effect ſurceaſeth ſtill.

It is unneceſſary to obſerve, that in quoting theſe obſervations, it is not the preſent intention to enter into the queſtion, whether we have in reality a Sinking Fund or no; or, in other words, whether our annual expenditure, all probable contingencies being taken into the account, is not equal to our annual income; nor yet into that other queſtion, whether the preſent mode of liquidating the National Debt, ſuppoſing that our income really exceeds our expenditure, is not as eligible as any of thoſe that were thrown out on all hands to the Public, when the Miniſter made an option. The ſimple queſtion here propoſed to liberal financiers and politicians, is, Whether, ſince Great Britain has not yet come near to the *ultimatum* of its improveability, the whole, or part of that money which is employed by the Public in buying up Stock for the Public, might not be more advantageouſly laid out in ſuch plans of general improvement as might contribute to alleviate the National Debt, by dividing it among a greater number of hands, and leſſening more and more the value of money? Whether the whole, or part of the Surplus Revenue, if there be any, might not be more happily employed in the encouragement

ment of agriculture and manufactures, than in being laid out, at three and a half per cent, in the public Funds? Nay, and whether that Surplus Revenue would not, on the whole, be more productive, left as a capital in the hands of induſtrious individuals, than drawn forth into the ſhape of a Sinking Fund, to the diſcouragement of ſeveral branches of trade and manufactures? It may farther be obſerved, that we neither have, nor can have, any ſecurity that the Sinking Fund will always be preſerved ſacred and inviolate. The ſame authority that created may annihilate it: and a time may come, when it may only ſerve as a tempting bait to the rapacity of ſome unprincipled Miniſter who may even bribe a majority in Parliament, by a participation in the public plunder.

The River Ythan, which runs deep and dead through a good ſoil and populous country, I have been informed, might, at a ſmall expence, be made navigable for boats up to Old Meldrum.

From Ellan to Aberdeen is ſixteen miles of very bad country. The greateſt part of this ſullen tract is black heath, full of rocks and large ſtones; ſo that the plough, except in a few ſpots, cannot enter it. But the courſe of the Don, as that of the Ythan, is fertilized by various improvements, and adorned with many Gentlemen's and Noblemen's ſeats, both antient and modern: among which we reckon

reckon Kildrummy Caſtle, once a Palace of the great King Robert Bruce. The ſtyle of this building, now a majeſtic ruin, is ſaid to be truly great; equally expreſſive of magnificence and a regard to ſafety. It is ſituated on a riſing ground, projecting into a deep glen. The buildings which occupy the eminence, arranged in a pentagonal form, are defended at the angles by very ſtrong and lofty towers: one of which is ſtill near fifty yards high. The court around which this maſſy pentagon is formed, conſiſts of an acre of ground. In the vaulted arches of one of the towers, there is an opening in the middle: through which there paſſed a maſſy chain, ſuſpended at the top, and reaching down to the ground, for the purpoſe of raiſing water from a well below, for the upper apartments. There are old men, ſtill living, who have ſeen this chain, and remember when it was taken away. A ſubterraneous paſſage is ſtill to be ſeen, reaching from the interior part of the Caſtle down to the ſtream which runs in the bottom of the glen. This communication with water, during a ſiege, muſt have been of great importance.

Kildrummy Caſtle, on account of its ſtrength and ſituation, became a natural aſylum to many noble families during thoſe continual wars which formerly diſtracted and deſolated Scotland. It was in this fortreſs that the King, Robert Bruce, the firſt of that name, lodged the Ladies that had fled to his ſtandard, and ſuch of his adherents as were

worn

worn out with the fatigues and hardſhips of war, when he retreated northwards before the victorious Engliſh, after the unfortunate battle of Methuen, near Perth, in the beginning of the fourteenth century. The King, according to that gallantry of diſpoſition and tenderneſs toward the fair ſex, which formed a part of his heroic character, gave up all the horſes in his poſſeſſion to his infirm friends, and to the Ladies, whom he ſent to Kildrummy, eſteemed impregnable: while he himſelf, with no more than two hundred followers, yielding to adverſe fortune, but not deſpairing of better, ſought for ſafety on foot, amidſt iſlands and lakes, and the receſſes of the Grampian Mountains.

This affecting ſtory forms a moſt beautiful Epiſode in the celebrated Hiſtory of Robert I. King of Scotland, written about 1375, by John Barbour, the Scottiſh Chaucer.

The King—" Ordanyt for the liklyeſt,
" That the Queyne, and the Erle (Athol) alſua,
" And the Ladyis, in hy ſuld ga,
" With Nele the Bruyſs, to Kildromy
" For thaim thocht thai mycht ſekyrly
" Duell thar, quhill thai were wictaillit weill:
" For ſwa ſtalwart wer the Caſtell,
" That it with ſtrenth war hard to get
" Quhill that therein wer men and mete.
" As thai ordanyt thai did in hy,
" The Queyne and all hyr cumpany,
" Lap on thair horſs, and furth thai far.
" Men mycht haiff ſene, quha had bene thar,
" At leve takyng the Ladyis gret,

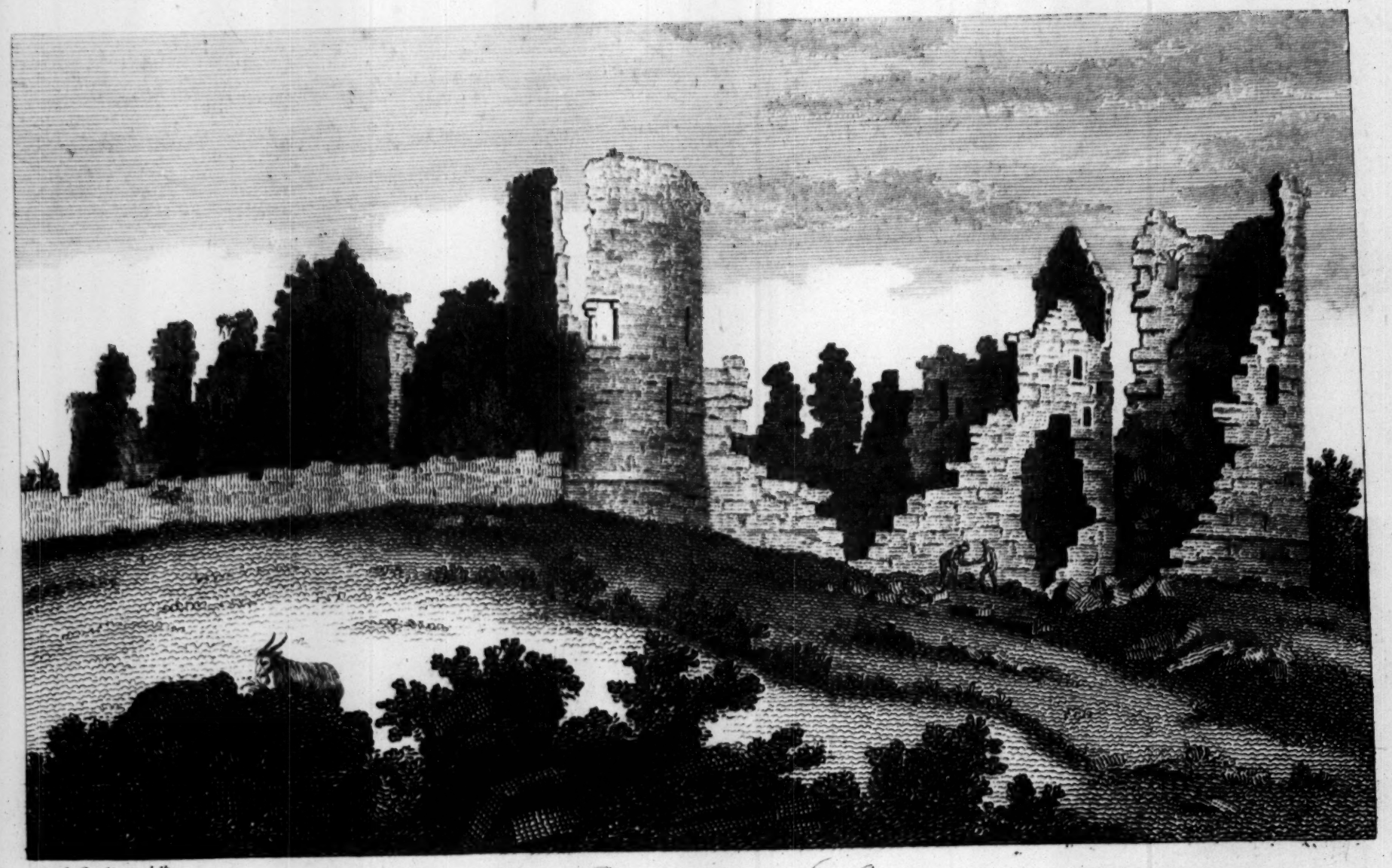
" And

" And mak thair face with ters wet:
" And Knychts, for thair luffs ſak,
" Bath ſich, and wep, and murnyng mak:
" Thai kyſſit thair luffs, at thair partyng.
" The King umbethocht hym off a thing;
" That he fra thynce on fute wald ga,
" And tak on fute beith weill and wa.
" And wald na horſſmen with him haiff;
" Tharfor hys horſs all haille he gaiff
" To the Ladyis, that Myſtir had.
" The Queyne furth on her way is rade,
" And ſawfflly come to the Caſtell,
" Quhar hyr folk war reſawyt weill;
" And eſyt weill with meyt and drynk.
" Bot mycht nane eyſs let hyr to think
" On the King, that wis ſa ſar ſtad,
" That bot twa hundir with him had.
" The Quheyir thaim weill cumfortyt he ay:
" God help hym, that all mychts may!

" The Queyne dwelt thus in *Kildromy*
" And the King, and hys cumpany,
" That war twa hundir and na ma,
" Fra thai had ſend thair horſs thaim fra,
" Wandryt emang the hey muntanys.
" Quhar he, and hys, oft tholyt paynis;
" For it wis to the Wintir ner;
" And ſa feile fayis about him wer,
" That all the cuntre thaim werrayit;
" Sa hard anoy thaim then aſſayit,
" Off hungir, cauld, with ſchowrs ſnell,
" That nane that levys can weill it tell."

Hiſt. Rob. I. Buke 3.

The



Alex.r Cordiner del.t

Kildrummy Castle.

The Queen, a daughter of De Burgh Earl of Ulſter, the ſecond wife of Robert, with a daughter of the King's by his firſt wife, Iſabella of Marr, under the apprehenſion of an approaching ſiege, made their eſcape through the ſubterraneous paſſage above-mentioned, and fled to the ſanctuary of St. Duthac at Taine: but the Earl of Roſs, regardleſs of that aſylum, ſeized and delivered them up to the Engliſh. They were afterwards reſtored to the King, in better times, in exchange for certain Engliſh priſoners of diſtinction.

Kildrummy was one of the few fortreſſes in Scotland, that remained in the hands of the Scottiſh Loyaliſts, in the reign of Edward III. of England, whoſe arms had over-run and conquered the greater part of the open country. The Earl of Athol, courting the favour of the victorious party, inveſted Kildrummy in November, 1335, with 3,000 men. On the appearance of a ſmall army of the Loyaliſts, who drew near, to annoy his operations, he raiſed the ſiege of Kildrummy, in order to attack them, and put them to flight. He had no ſooner begun his march, for this purpoſe, than the garriſon, making a vigorous ſally, fell on his rear, and cut off the Earl with moſt of his followers. From this date, the ſpirit of liberty blazed forth in Scotland with irreſiſtible fury; and Edward found it impoſſible to ſubdue his Northern neighbours, either by policy or by arms. Unable to make head againſt that great Monarch in the open Country, they withdrew into their hills and faſtneſſes,

from whence they embraced every opportunity of haraſſing, and cutting off in detail their invaders: who were at laſt obliged to retreat within the Engliſh frontier. Kildrummy continued to be the principal reſidence of the Earls of Marr till the beginning of the preſent century. But the eſtate and honours of that family being forfeited in the year 1715, the nobleſt Caſtle in North-Britain, poſſeſſed by a ſubject, and inferior to none in England or Wales, ſoon fell into ruin.

For the accompanying drawing, as well as the greater part of the account I have here given of Kildrummy Caſtle, I acknowledge my obligations to the Reverend Mr. Cordiner, of Bamff, who has happily delineated, both by his pen and his pencil, ſeveral Scottiſh ſcenes that lie out of the way of common travellers.

In contraſt with the rude and ruinous majeſty of Kildrummy, ſtands another manſion in Strath-Don, diſtinguiſhed by the beauty of its park or garden, and other traces imprinted on the reluctant ſoil by the hand of modern cultivation. The garden of Monimuſk, which they call Paradiſe, lies two miles Weſt from the Caſtle of that name, which is ſituated on the ſouthern banks of the Don, about eighteen miles from the place where that river meets the ocean. It is ſituated at the foot of a high hill, which riſes up to defend it from the blaſts of the South and South-weſt;

weſt; as Benachie, the ſcene of many a tale, does from thoſe of the North-weſt and North; adorned with various walks amidſt flowers, a flowery carpet of green turf; a great profuſion of ſhrubs and trees; and an hermitage built in the Norwegian manner, trunks of trees laid horizontally one upon another, and guarded on both ſides by towering pines, many of which meaſure from eight to nine feet in circuit immediately above the ground, and from ſix to ſeven at the height of ten feet. Aſh, beech, birch, cheſnut, elm, larix, the plane-tree, &c. &c. march up the ſide of the hill, ſome of them in rows, others in a kind of regular confuſion. Six thouſand acres incloſed by a ſtone wall, ten miles in circumference, are interſperſed with more than thirty thouſand trees. It is but eighty years ſince all this was begun by the proprietor, the late Sir Archibald Grant, who purchaſed the eſtate, when it could not boaſt of a ſingle tree. The ſpace of ground comprehending the gardens of Monimuſk, and the adjoining plantations, was a farm, let at no higher a rent than fifty ſhillings a year. Sir Archibald took it into his own hands, cleared the ground of ſtones, rocks, and the little bruſh-wood that it bore, and formed and cloathed it in its preſent garb. Never, in any country, was there a more pleaſing proof of the power of induſtry.

The banks of the Don are alſo enlivened, towards the termination of its courſe by ſeveral thriving manufactures: an extenſive bleaching field for linen cloth; a cotton mill,

and manufactory which employs about ſix hundred young people of both ſexes; a paper-mill; and a mill for combing wool.

Wool of a texture extremely fine, falling in ſoft ringlets, and of a gloſſy and ſnowy appearance, equal, at leaſt, to the beſt Spaniſh wool, has been diſcovered in the Shetland and Orkney Iſles, as well as in the Hebrides, and in different Highland glens, particularly Gleneſk, Strathſpey, and Strathnaver, where the indigenous ſheep are ſuppoſed to remain unmixed: and the attention of the Scots begins now to be turned to the woollen, as well as to the linen and cotton manufactures. Mr. David Loch, of Edinburgh, at one period the greateſt merchant in Scotland, had the merit of opening the eyes of his countrymen to the natural reſource which they had, or might have, in their own country wool. The latter part of his life, after a ſeries of loſſes had cloſed his mercantile career, was devoted to the public good. In ſeveral pamphlets and in news-papers, as well as in converſation, he ſhewed that wool, not flax, was the natural ſtaple of Scotland, and with how much greater advantage his countrymen might be employed in the culture of the former, than in that of the latter. Though his fortune was exhauſted almoſt to the dregs, he was at the expence of making ſeveral journeys to different parts of Scotland, to examine the nature of the wool, and the ſtate of paſturage; and to reaſon with the proprietors of land, eſpecially in the Highlands,

Highlands, on the benefits to be derived from the rearing of ſheep, inſtead of allotting the whole of their land to the breeding of cattle. As he had truth on his ſide, and enforced his arguments with that animated and impreſſive eloquence which uſually diſtinguiſhes inventors and projectors, his ſucceſs was very great. Many of the land-holders adopted his maxims; and ſome of them, as has already been obſerved, ſeem inclined to paſs, on this head, from one extreme to the other.

Mr. Loch was followed by a number of writers, who confirmed and propagated his ideas: though they have not, all of them, been willing to acknowledge the ſource from whence they drew them. He is an eminent proof and example how much it may be in the power of a private individual to benefit his Country by producing a change of opinion. The late Lord Heathfield, a philoſopher and political œconomiſt, as well as a conſummate Military Commander, and who found the warmth of wool to be the ſovereign alleviation of rheumatic and arthritical pain, beſtowed particular praiſe on that of the iſlands on the weſtern and northern ſhores of Scotland, and recommended it to the manufacturers of the fleecy hoſiery, of which he was the zealous patron.

On a retroſpect of the widely-extended tract through which we have paſſed from the Neſs to the Don, it appears, though

though on the whole, tame and flat, to be not a little diverſified by circumſtances both phyſical and moral. One bleſſing, common to the whole, is the clearneſs of the atmoſphere, and freedom from exhalations and miſts. At Midſummer the night is hardly to be diſtinguiſhed from the day; while in Winter, the ſun creeps along the tops of the hills, without power, and as if he ſhewed his face juſt to put the inhabitants in mind that they might yet expect his return and benign influence. Hence, in both ſeaſons, a languid monotony; a little increaſed by the want of trees, which, from the Murray Frith to Aberdeen, near the ſea, is almoſt total. As you recede more and more Eaſtward from Inverneſs, and approach more and more to Aberdeen, the ſoft and plaintive tone of the antient and native Caledonians is exchanged for a dialect, ſharp, unmuſical, and affected; being an aukward imitation of the Engliſh, ingrafted on a kind of dental pronunciation imported by the invaders of Scotland from Norway. This acuteneſs of ſound accords not ill with that ſharpneſs in buſineſs which is aſcribed to the Aberdonians by the inhabitants of all the other Counties in Scotland: in the ſame manner that a particular acuteneſs and addreſs, in this way, is attributed, in England, to the people of Yorkſhire. The people of Nairne and Murrayſhire are ſaid to be of ſmall ſtature, warm tempers, and not a little fanatical in both politics and religion. The character given of the *Moravienſes* by the celebrated Hiſtorian Buchannan, 200 years ago, that they were quick, and eaſily moved

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to enterprize and revolution, is ſaid to be ſupported ſtill, by preſent appearances. In Aberdeenſhire, the race of men is larger, and, though extremely attentive to the public, as well as to their private concerns, perfectly free from religious enthuſiaſm. The people of Bamff, lying between Murray and Aberdeenſhire, partake, in ſome meaſure, of the characteriſtical qualities of both. It is impoſſible for a traveller to vouch for the accuracy of theſe moral diſtinctions. I only report what is commonly ſaid and believed in Scotland: obſerving, at the ſame time, that to mark the ſhades in the varying characters of the people of different diſtricts in the ſame Country, is a curious and not altogether unprofitable ſpeculation.

A ſtriking difference between the Moravians and Aberdonians appears, with regard to that abhorrence of mixture which is in ſome degree, it ſeems, natural to men, and which is ſtrongeſt where human feelings are the moſt lively and delicate. In Murray, they make bread of all kinds of flour mixed up together: meal of barley, peas, oats, rye, &c. In Aberdeenſhire, and throughout the Highlands of Scotland, this cuſtom would appear very diſguſting. Bread made out of flour of each of thoſe ſpecies of grain they have: but not of any two or more of them mixed. It is common in other low and fertile diſtricts, as the Carſes of Gowrie and Falkirk, &c. to mingle the flour of different grains, as well as in Murray. In the higher and poorer

tracts,

tracts, that is, in the greater part of Scotland, the flour of each different ſpecies is kept, and uſed pure and unmixed. In Murray, a ſimilar, and very ludicrous union of things heterogeneous, is exhibited by the country people in the ploughing of the land. There is nothing more common than to ſee ſmall horſes, jack-aſſes, ſtotts, or two years old bullocks, and even boar ſwine, all yoked together, and dragging, in good fellowſhip, the ſlight plough through the light and pliant ſoil. The Negroes have an obſervation, that among the white men, every living thing is made to work.: "The dog workee; the ox workee; the aſs workee; "the horſe workee; the men and the women workee; "every thing workee but the hog: he be a Gentleman." It may be mentioned, among the peculiarities of the Province of Murray, that here the hog is no Gentleman. This unnatural and bizarre conjunction, in the eye of a Hindoo, would appear a monſtrous abomination. So alſo it would have appeared to the antient Jews, Aſſyrians, and Egyptians. Such commixtures were prohibited, as abominations, by the Law of Moſes.

The whole Eaſtern Coaſt of Scotland is very barren of wood; but on that of Aberdeenſhire, which is generally high and rocky, not a ſingle tree is to be ſeen. Nor do trees, in general, thrive near the ſea-ſide in England any more than in Scotland. Witneſs the nakedneſs of the Country about Brighthelmſtone, and of the whole Coaſt of Suſſex.

Suſſex. Yet, it is remarkable, that trees grow to a much larger ſize on the Southern Coaſt of Devonſhire, though expoſed, in part, to the eaſterly wind, jetting farther than Suſſex into the ocean, and farther removed from the oppoſite Coaſt of France. This ſtriking fact proves, that there are other circumſtances which are able to overcome the malign influence of an eaſterly wind and ſea air on the growth of wood in Devonſhire, and conſequently that the ſame circumſtances might operate, if they are of a transferable nature, in other maritime coaſts. In Devonſhire the ditches, dykes, and hedges are on a grand ſcale: the ditches deep and wide; the mounds thrown up, or dykes, proportionably high; and the thorns and other wood that form the hedges, planted on thoſe fertile maſſes of earth, riſing commonly to the height of thirty or forty feet. The ditches are cleared out once in three years, and the vegetable ſpoils with which they are filled reſtored to the ſphere of vegetable action. Thoſe hedges, conſiſting of whatever is fitted to live under the ſea breeze, ſhelter plants of a more delicate nature, on the land-ſide within: and in this manner the Coaſt of Devonſhire, and that of Cornwall too, has been fenced, warmed, and wooded; and that, perhaps, at an earlier period than any other portion of the Britiſh Coaſt: ſince, they were the firſt that were viſited, and carried on commercial intercourſe with the moſt cultivated nations of antiquity, from the Mediterranean.

At the north end of Old Aberdeen, is an elegant Gothic arch, turned over the River Don, here a large and deep river, running through a glen, till it comes near the ſea.

Old Aberdeen conſiſts of one ſtreet only, and the houſes are very indifferent. There is a College, called King's College, founded by James IV. At preſent, about 150 Students belong to it, eighty of whom have apartments in the College: the reſt lodge out of it for want of room. Commons are provided for them in the College, but they are at liberty to eat in or out of it as they think proper. This building is by no means uniform or ſtriking, except the top of the tower, which is turned in two arches, ſupporting the Crowns, and has rather an elegant appearance. The library is a good room, and contains an excellent collection of antient and modern books, with ſome very curious old manuſcripts. The chapel, which joins the Library, is very old, and much out of repair. The hall is a large, well-proportioned room, very ill furniſhed; but it has ſome good portraits in it. There are Profeſſors here of all the Sciences, and their ſalaries are but ſmall. Hence, they pay great attention, I am told, to their buſineſs. If a man has a diſpoſition to obtain learning and information, he may acquire them here at a ſmall expence; and without this diſpoſition he will acquire them no where. This happened to be the time of their vacation, which laſts ſeven months. During the other five, lectures are continually read, and

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the Students are called on, as at ſchools, to give an account of their leſſons. The claſſes meet, ſome of them, three times a day, and endeavour to make up, by the intenſity of their application, the whole time of the ſeſſion, for the ſhortneſs of its duration.

New Aberdeen, ſituated between the Rivers Dee and Don, is a large and well-built City, adjoining to the old town of that name. Some of the ſtreets are wide, and the houſes lofty and ſpacious. They are all built of granite, the ſame kind of ſtone which is ſent from hence to pave the ſtreets of London. This ſtone is ſo hard that no people can work it, except thoſe who have been accuſtomed to it from their youth. The inſtrument they uſe is very ſimple: it is a kind of hammer with two ſharp points. The principal art in working this ſtone ſeems to me to be perſeverance. And who will deny that an Aberdeen's man poſſeſſes this quality? The ſtone, however, when worked, looks well, and muſt be very durable. The quarries, and ſtones taken in different parts, out of the fields, conſtantly occupy eight hundred hands. Arable land is formed, and plantations of various trees cover rocks impenetrable by the plough. It is an unequivocal ſymptom of the proſperity of Aberdeen, as well as of the enterprizing and perſevering ſpirit of the inhabitants, that they tame the horrid ſoil for many miles around, at an expence little ſhort of 200l. an acre. Land, or I ſhould rather ſay, the ſpace where land is now formed,

in even the near vicinity of Aberdeen, before that grand æra of Liberty in North-Britain, the year of the Juriſdiction Bill, 1748, ſcarcely let for ſixpence an acre. The rate of land in the ſame tract is now from ſix to ſeven pounds an acre. To the enormity of this price there is nothing that can be compared, even in the neighbourhood of London. At Aberdeen good land is ſcarce, and its value is not meaſured entirely by the quantity of grain or vegetables that it is capable of producing; to poſſeſs a few acres of this dear land is eſteemed, on reaſonable enough grounds, a mark of gentility and opulence. At Aberdeen, turnips, carrots, and potatoes, paſs, among the common people, by the name of fruit. When a cargo of this kind arrives, the Common Cryer announces the arrival of a veſſel laden with fruit.

The trade of Aberdeen is chiefly to Holland and the Baltic, the Port of London, and a few veſſels to the Mediterranean. Its manufactures and trade, woollen, thread, and cotton ſtockings, but chiefly woollen, of which they ſend a great quantity annually to Holland and Germany: grain, ſalmon, dried ſkate, ling, cod, &c. The ſtocking trade is computed to be worth 100,000l. annually to Aberdeen; the ſalmon fiſhing 10,000l. The Pier of Aberdeen is 1200 feet long, built in a circular form, for the purpoſe of keeping the River Dee within certain bounds, to clear the harbour, and obtain a ſufficient draught of water: which has had the deſired effect, as they have now thirteen feet water over the

the bar, which will admit of ſhips of 400 tons burthen. This pier coſt 16,000l. It is very ſtrong, being built of granite, many pieces of which, particularly thoſe on the outſide way, (for on the inſide of the parapet there are three foot-ways, one above the other) being three tons in weight, and all of them at leaſt four feet in length. This projection gradually increaſes in both thickneſs and height, as it advances within the domain of the ſea. Where it firſt ſets off from the land ſide, it is twenty feet in breadth at the baſe, twelve at the top, and in height ſixteen: beſides the parapet wall on the northern ſide, which is four feet ſix inches thick, and four feet high. Where it joins the head of the pier, it is thirty-ſix feet at the baſe, and twenty-four feet at the top, including the parapet, which is here eight feet high and ten broad. The eaſtern extremity, or head of this magnificent ſtructure, preſenting a bold front to the utmoſt rage of Neptune, is ſixty feet in diameter, and in height to the platform thirty feet; which, with the parapet, make thirty-eight feet. On the oppoſite, that is, the South ſide of this projection, a ſmall pier runs, along the ſhelving and rocky extremity of the Grampians: and here ſtands the little town of Torry, which is rapidly increaſing in induſtry, wealth, and population.

The entrance into the ſpacious and ſecure harbour of Aberdeen, between theſe two piers is pictureſque and noble. The town, which is of great extent, riſes to view in the form

form of an Amphitheatre, and the quay, extended along the Harbour, and lined with public offices and ware-houſes for the reception of trade, give you an idea, at once of the wealth, and wiſe, as well as liberal economy of the inhabitants. At the end of the quay, ſtands the little fiſhing-town of Foot-dee, interſperſed with wharfs, where not leſs than a dozen of veſſels are to be ſeen on the ſtocks at the ſame time. For the purpoſe of warding off from the harbour, the ſands carried down by the Don, a mole has lately been extended, at the junction of that river with the Dee, which has added ſeveral feet to the depth of water at the bar of this laſt-mentioned river.

In Aberdeen there are two large kirks cloſe together, and Gordon's ſchool, at ſome diſtance from the City, with a large garden round it. This ſchool, which is a handſome ſtone building, ſupports and educates eighty boys, in reading, writing, arithmetic, French, &c. A College here, founded by Earl Mariſchal, about the ſame ſize as King's College, is attended by the ſame number of Students, but none of theſe live in the College. The library here is much inferior to that of the other ſeminary. The hall is a handſome room, with a full length picture of Lord Bute; a half length of Lord Buchan, and ſome other good portraits. The Muſeum is a ſmall room, containing a very indifferent collection of curioſities, but a number of excellent inſtruments for Experimental Philoſophy. The Town-hall is a

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ſpacious and elegant room. Here is alſo a Grammar School and an Hoſpital, a very plain building, which ſends out annually between ſeven and eight hundred patients. The two Cities of Aberdeen contain about 20,000 ſouls; and there are about 5000 in the ſuburbs.

The ſtile of living, and the manners of the individual inhabitants of Aberdeen, do not diſgrace that public ſpirit which appears in their buildings. They are well-informed, polite, hoſpitable, cheerful, gay, and great lovers of muſic. Aberdeen, inſulated from the South of Scotland by long land carriage, and the ſtoney mountains from thence to Stone-haven, but approximated to London by eaſy water-conveyance, draws her ideas of trade, as well as her terms in buſineſs, and the manner of her ſhops directly from the Britiſh Metropolis. Hence too, it may be fairly preſumed, they derive, in part, that political vigilance and active patriotiſm, for which, among the Counties of Scotland, that of Aberdeen is juſtly diſtinguiſhed. It was the Gentlemen of Aberdeenſhire who took the lead in thoſe meaſures that have been purſued with very conſiderable ſucceſs, for the abolition of nominal and fictitious votes, as it was the Citizens of Aberdeen that firſt moved, and have been the moſt active in promoting a Reform in the Royal Burghs.

Nor, in accounting for the liberal and active ſpirit that prevails in the City and Province of Aberdeen, are we to

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paſs by the natural influence of the Univerſity. The ſtudy of Literature and Philoſophy, not only ſoftens the aſperity of barbarous manners, and elevates the mind above the mere calculation of loſs and gain, but alſo, where intereſt is the object, points out the ſureſt roads, and opens new avenues for attaining it. It teaches accuracy and preciſion in every undertaking or concern: it enlarges the ſphere of obſervation; and encreaſes the ſubjects of enterprize and adventure. Public Seminaries, where they do not ſtagnate into indolence and mere formality, are of great public importance: not only for the diffuſion of knowledge, as knowledge, but for the advantage which it confers on youth, in all the different walks of life; and the acceſſion which it makes, in their proſperity, to the wealth and the reputation of a Country. And if public Schools of Philoſophy are in reality uſeful in this way, it is proper that they ſhould be diſtributed in ſuch a manner as to afford an eaſy and inviting opportunity of liberal education to as many of the youth as poſſible. They ſhould not, eſpecially in a poor Kingdom, be crowded together in one place, but ſeparated, and arranged with a view to public conveniency in different quarters. This would be like ſpreading the ſtimulative power of manure over large tracts of waſte land.

A ſcheme has, for ſome time, been in agitation for uniting the two Colleges of Old and New Aberdeen into one, in the ſame manner that two Colleges, for the benefit of the

the Maſters, were thrown into one in St. Andrews. It would, perhaps, be wiſer œconomy, inſtead of uniting, to ſeparate the two Colleges to a greater diſtance from one another, by fixing one of them, with all the privileges of an Univerſity, at Inverneſs, the capital of the northern diviſion of Scotland, including the more northerly iſlands. This would be a very proper ſtation for the eſtabliſhment of a Gâelic Profeſſor. The Gâelic, or Erſe, is held by ſome to be an original language; to have been that of the Celtæ; and even the root of the Greek and Latin. It may, at leaſt, be worth while to preſerve the radical terms of that antient tongue.

Beſides the local ſituation, there is another circumſtance which points out Inverneſs as a very proper ſeat for the Engliſh Muſes. The people of Inverneſs, it is generally allowed, are not only free from that unfortunate intonation of Aberdeenſhire, which has already been mentioned, but ſpeak the Engliſh language with greater purity than they do in any other part in Scotland. A natural emulation would take place between the Univerſity of Inverneſs and that of Aberdeen, which could not but produce a fermentation highly conducive to the growth of ſcience. It would undoubtedly be better, inſtead of duplicates of an imperfect, to have one general and complete ſyſtem, or courſe of education. I would therefore form one ſuch complete Seminary for all the branches of Academical Education, at Aberdeen; and the foundations that ſhould remain, in the ſtyle

of duplicates, after this new arrangement, I would transfer to Inverneſs: where, the voluntary and liberal ſubſcription made by the Gentlemen of thoſe parts for the eſtabliſhment of an Academy, or *Schola Illuſtris*, together with the *extra*, or ſuperfluous Profeſſorſhips of Aberdeen, and a ſmall ſum mortified by ſome generous hand, public or private, for the ſupport of an Erſe Profeſſor, would endow a noble *alma mater* for Inverneſs-ſhire, with part of Murray, and the Counties, with the adjacent Iſlands, ſituated to the North of the great glen already deſcribed, extending from Inverneſs to Fort-William. I do not ſuppoſe that theſe academical arrangements at Inverneſs and Aberdeen would include a complete ſyſtem or courſe, either of Law or Phyſic, any more than the Univerſities of Glaſgow or St. Andrews. Though it is proper that the Student in Phyſic ſhould be initiated as early as poſſible in Chemiſtry, Anatomy, and Phyſiology; and that the Lawyer ſhould be acquainted betimes with the great principles of Juriſprudence, as they are founded in Moral Philoſophy and Civil Hiſtory: yet, ſurely, no Scotchman will ever ſeriouſly think of purſuing the ſtudies of Phyſic or of Law, at the preſent moment, in any other Univerſity than that of Edinburgh. In the Colleges of Inverneſs and Aberdeen, it would be ſufficient that there ſhould be, in each, one Profeſſor of Law, and one of Medicine, for the purpoſe of bending, and preparing the minds, and of trying the natural turns, too, of ſuch as might afterwards

wards have an inclination and opportunity of purſuing thoſe ſtudies, at the celebrated Univerſity juſt mentioned.

Friday, 22d July. Leave Aberdeen, and croſs the Dee, a very large river, over which is an elegant bridge of ſeven arches. About a mile and a half from the bridge, on the Stonehaven road, is a beautiful view of the city, with a number of neat country houſes round it. From this hill the road runs near the ſea all the way to Stonehaven, and is very dreary: no trees to be ſeen, except now and then a ſmall plantation of firs. Some few ſpots are converted into corn land and graſs, but heath prevails. The huts are little better than the Highland ones.

Stonehaven is a ſmall village, ſituated in a rocky bay. The inhabitants are chiefly ſupported by fiſhing. They have four or five ſloops here, of forty or fifty tons burthen, which they employ in the fiſhery, and go to Aberdeen, and other places on the coaſt to diſpoſe of what they get. The fiſh generally taken are, cod, ling, haddocks, and ſkate, and ſometimes they take a great quantity of dog-fiſh, from which they extract oil.

About a mile from Stonehaven, to the ſouth, are the ruins of Dunotter-Caſtle, the antient ſeat of the Earls Mariſchal of Scotland, on a high perpendicular rock, almoſt ſurrounded by the ſea. On the acceſſible part, which is very nar-

row, there are three gate-ways within each other, and to each was formerly affixed a portcullis. This place, before cannon were in uſe, muſt have been impregnable: it has been very large, and capable of containing ſeveral hundred men. Sleep at Stonehaven. The only factory here is a ſmall one for canvaſs, carried on by ſome people of Aberdeen.

Saturday, 23d July. In the morning leave Stonehaven, and go to Inverbervie. The road runs on cliffs all the way by the ſea-ſide. The ſoil is in many places very good, and tolerably cultivated.

Inverbervie is a ſmall village between two hills, which terminate in high cliffs towards the ſea. The vale behind it is very pleaſant and fertile. The people of this village are chiefly employed in making ſewing-thread. Go from Inverbervie to Montroſe, fifteen miles of highly cultivated land, great part of it incloſed. The wheat, beare, and oats, remarkably good, and the graſs very thick. There are ſeveral good houſes near the road, with tolerable plantations about them. The farm-houſes, and even the cottages, in this part of the country, are well built and comfortable. Two miles from Montroſe is an elegant bridge of ſeven arches, over the River North-Eſk, built by the people of Montroſe, at the expence of 6,500l. a very liberal donation to the public, for on this bridge there is no toll-gate. The

King,

King, out of the forfeited eſtates, granted them the aid of 800l.

Montroſe is a conſiderable town, well built of ſtone, and has one very wide ſtreet in it. It is ſituated on a ſandy plain, and cloſe by it runs the river South-Eſk, which is navigable up to the town for ſhips of 3 or 400 tons. Larger ſhips may come in, as there are eighteen feet water over the bar, but the veſſels they generally employ are about 200 tons. A great deal of coarſe linen cloth, called Oſnaburghs, is made here for exportation: alſo canvaſs and ſewing-thread: a great deal of malt too, is made for exportation. At Montroſe is an Engliſh chapel, a neat building, with an organ in it. The town-houſe is a handſome building on porticos. To the weſt of the town is a baſon, nearly two miles wide, through which runs the South-Eſk River. This baſon is full at high water, and dry at half-ebbs. Were there water enough in it for veſſels to lie in, it would be as convenient a harbour as any in Britain. A great quantity of ſalmon is caught here, in the North and South-Eſk Rivers, but this year the fiſhermen have been rather unſucceſsful. Montroſe is well ſupplied with fiſh, and proviſions of all kinds. In the neighbourhood are ſeveral country-houſes, ſome of them belonging to the merchants of Montroſe. All the country round is covered with corn.

Sunday, 24th July. Leave Montroſe, and go to Forfar, twenty-

twenty-three miles. Paſs a ſmall town called Brechin, where there is an old houſe, well ſurrounded by trees, belonging to Lord Panmure. Here alſo is the moſt perfect Pictiſh tower, or ſpire of a church, to be found in Scotland. Sleep at Forfar, a ſmall town: the houſes very indifferent. This ſeems to be the richeſt country in Scotland, of equal extent; for the whole of it, as far eaſt and weſt as the eye can carry, and to the north as far as the Grampian Mountains, the land is covered with corn, chiefly beare and oats: the proportion of wheat appears to be ſmall. The crops are all very thick and ſtrong. Near the town of Forfar is a ſmall piece of water, upon the eſtate of Lord Strathmore, the bottom of which is fine marl. This ſmall ſpot is ſo valuable, that it has produced 1800l. per annum.

Monday, 25th July. Leave Forfar in the morning, and ride ſix miles to Glamis-Caſtle, belonging to Lord Strathmore. This antient caſtle is ſituated on a plain, and ſurrounded by extenſive woods and plantations. The centre, and one wing of the caſtle, are entire: the other wing has been taken down. The caſtle is very high, with a number of curious and conical turrets on the top: there are at leaſt fifty rooms in it ſtill, though only part of it remains. In the centre, to which you aſcend by a number of large ſtone ſteps, is a ſpacious hall with a cove ceiling, which, with its furniture, ſeems to have ſuffered no alteration ſince the caſtle was firſt built. It is truly deſcriptive of its former

ſavage

ſavage inhabitants. The whole of the caſtle ſeems well calculated for the perpetration of the horrid deed which Shakeſpear has recorded. In the front of the houſe are ſeveral large ſtatues of the Stuart family, caſt in lead, and a very curious ſun-dial ſupported by four lions.

After leaving Forfar, the road is frequently bounded by thorn hedges, a ſight very unuſual to us; for, except what is called the policies about the Noblemen and Gentlemen's houſes, which are but thinly ſcattered, we had hitherto ſeen but little wood, and no incloſures. Dine at Coupar, a ſmall village with a very bad public houſe. In the evening go about a mile out of the road to ſee the old palace of Scone, which now belongs to Lord Stormont. The gateway and part of the old front of the palace now only remain. Lord Stormont has made many additions to it by building ſeveral habitable rooms, and means occaſionally to reſide here. This palace renowned as the place where the Kings of Scotland were crowned, is very pleaſantly ſituated on the bank of the River Tay, and commands a beautiful view of the river and the neighbouring hills, with part of the Town of Perth.

Acroſs the Tay, there is thrown a bridge of eleven arches, which coſt about 25,000l. A large ſum was contributed for this ſtructure by Government, out of the fund for making and repairing roads in North-Britain, and the revenue ariſing from the forfeited eſtates, which was ſeldom ſo well employed,

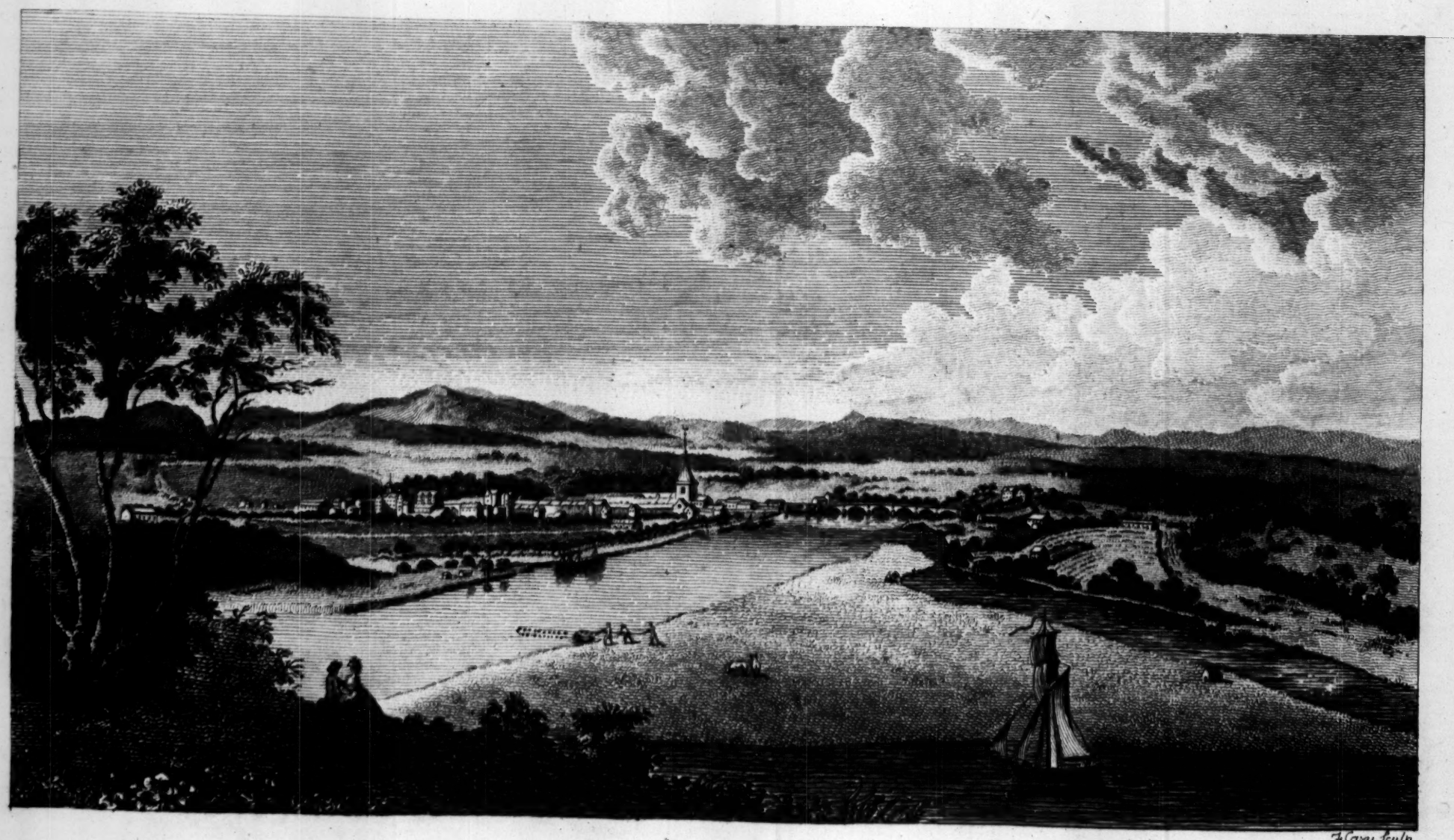
employed, being generally waſted in ſtipends for inſolent factors, or land-ſtewards, or in donations to ſuch ſpeculative projectors, as happened to enjoy the favour of the leading men among the Truſtees. But, beſides what was given, with equal liberality and wiſdom, by Government, contributions to the amount of 17,000l. were raiſed in different parts of the country, all more or leſs concerned in an eaſy communication, at ſo centrical a ſituation, between the northern and ſouthern parts of Scotland. The bridge of Perth, extended over the greateſt weight of water in Britain, is a noble inſtance of the power of art over nature, and a glorious monument to the memory of a neighbouring Nobleman, through whoſe exertions it was begun, continued, and happily finiſhed. The Earl of Kinnoull, after many years ſpent in very honourable public life, in the courſe of which he took a very warm part, under the Adminiſtration of Mr. Pelham, in the abolition of hereditary juriſdictions, continued his habits of beneficent activity in retirement. His eſtates in the neighbourhood of Perth are beautified with commodious farm-houſes for his tenants; the land divided into incloſures, and ſheltered by riſing hedges; and all his people, inſtructed by him, like the father of a numerous family, in the principles of huſbandry, and indulged with leaſes on reaſonable terms, are diſtinguiſhed among their neighbours by every mark of proſperity. Loncarty, the ſcene of action where the founder of his family, of which the chief is the Earl of Errol, gained immortal renown, by repreſſing the victorious

torious fury of the Danes, lies on the Tay, about three miles north from Perth, and is now as remarkable for the arts of peace, as it was formerly for the oppoſition of arms. In thoſe fields, which are now covered with linen cloth, or luxuriant crops of wheat, and other grain, ſwords, ſpears, and targets, occaſionally dug up in the courſe of agriculture, and in the formation of canals for the purpoſes of bleaching, add, every day, new documents of the authenticity of the Scottiſh hiſtory. In the vicinity of Perth are ſome of the moſt extenſive bleaching-fields to be found in Scotland: and here the linen manufacture flouriſhes greatly in all its branches. Here, too, the cotton manufactures begin to thrive, under the foſtering care of the Duke of Athol, Mr. Graham of Balgowan, Mr. Dempſter, and, above all, of that ingenious and excellent citizen, Mr. Arkwright. The river, which is navigable by ſhips of 200 tons, conſpires with an inland ſituation, and that vaſt extent of country watered by the Ern, the Tay, the Tummel, and the Iſlay, of all which it is the natural port and emporium, to render Perth one of the moſt proſperous places in North-Britain. Nor ſhould it be forgotten, on this ſubject, that theſe favourable circumſtances have not yet been duly ſeconded and improved by art; though we muſt here do juſtice to the induſtry and enterpriſing ſpirit of a few individuals, particularly the families of the Meliſſes, Bells, and Sandemans, and the late ſpirited exertions of Macalpine. It may alſo be obſerved, amongſt the natural prerogatives of the town of Perth, that, from its ſituation, it

has naturally become a poſt for armies, in times of civil war, and a military ſtation, in times of peace. This is the ſource of ſome of thoſe capitals, which are at this day happily employed in manufactures and commerce. Another conſiderable ſource of proſperity to Perth, is the ſalmon fiſhery, the greateſt in all Scotland, and improved to its full extent by the ingenuity and enlarged views of Mr. Richardſon. The Tay, about a mile below Perth, ſuddenly diſappears, and is loſt between the lofty Cliff of Kinnoull, and the Hill of Moncrieff: ſo that the maſts of veſſels, like the neighbouring plantations of wood, ſeem to have ſprung up from the ground, not to have been wafted from the ocean. On the northern and the eaſtern banks of the Tay, from theſe twin hills to Dundee, lies a diſtrict of amazing fertility, called the Carſe of Gowrie, twenty miles in length, and, on an average, about three miles in breadth. Two miles to the eaſtward of the Hill of Moncrieff, the River Ern falls into the Tay, now expanded into an eſtuary or frith, having a part of Fife-ſhire on the ſouth, and the fertile plain juſt mentioned, the common granary of Perth and Dundee, on the North.

The configuration, and relative poſition of the Hills of Moncrieff and Kinnoull, and of the Hill of Dunſinnane, about four miles north-eaſt from the latter, ſtrikes the ſpectator, as by a ſenſation, with the truth of what has been remarked by natural hiſtorians, that hills lying in the ſame meridional direction, have their ſteepeſt and boldeſt faces

towards



F. Cary Sculp

PERTH

towards the weſt. Theſe diſtinguiſhed eminences preſent, uniformly, perpendicular fronts to the ſouth-weſt, and terminate, by gradual ſlopings, in the valleys or plains on the north and eaſt. A ſimilar obſervation may be made on the general ſhape and ſituation of all the mountains in Britain; but where three detached hills, ſimilarly ſhaped and ſituated, burſt upon your ſight at one view, compariſons and inferences are unavoidable.

The old towns in Great Britain, as well as on the Continent, are, almoſt without exception, built by accident, and without a plan. Their ſtreets, or lanes, are crowded and narrow, and their general *contour* is irregular. Perth and St. Andrews are among the few, if not the only antient towns in Scotland, that have been evidently formed by deſign: both of them conſiſting of parallel and wide ſtreets, joined by others croſſing them at right angles. It is farther to be obſerved, concerning Perth, that different ſtreets and lanes appear to have been very early allotted, probably from its foundation, to the different craftſmen. At this day, and as far back as memory, tradition, or written records carry up the reſearches, and gratify the curioſity of the local antiquarian, fellow-craftſmen, with a few exceptions, are conſtantly found inhabiting the ſame quarter of the town, or the ſame ſtreets. The ſkinners, or furriers corporation, live in one ſtreet, with certain adjacent cloſes and allies; the weavers in a ſecond; the hammermen in a third; the ſhop-keepers, or, as they are called,

merchants, in a fourth; the butchers, before the erection of a fleſh-market, in a fifth; and ſo on. On the north and the ſouth ſides of the town are two extenſive and beautiful fields of meadow, or paſture land, never yet ſubdued by the plough, bounded on the eaſt by the river, each of them about a mile and an half in circumference, and that on the ſouth ſide planted round with a double row of planes and elms, and other foreſt trees. A wing, or ſpur, according to the antient idiom of the Caledonians, of the Hill of Moncrieff, floped down into gentle eminences, covered with plantations of wood, half encircle this delightful ſpot on the ſouth and the weſt; while the baſe of the Hill of Kinnoull, planted, in like manner, with trees, ſtretching, and uniting, by ſlow degrees with a vaſt plain, bounded on the north by the Grampian Mountains, and on either hand by the ocean, ſhelters and adorns it on the eaſt. That plain, which, from its large extent, is called Strathmore, is terminated on the eaſt by the German Ocean at Stonehaven, and on the weſt, by the eſtuary of Clyde at Dunbarton. Its northern boundary has been already mentioned: its ſouthern is formed by a range of hills, running parallel with the Grampians, but which, its contiguity being in two or three places interrupted by the courſe of rivers, is to be conſidered under three ſub-diviſions. The firſt of theſe, beginning our ſurvey from the eaſt, is, or may be, by a ſmall extenſion of the term, called the Sidley Hills, riſing to the ſouthward of Forfar in Angus, and falling from their height, as they ſtretch

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in a weſterly courſe along the northern edge of the Carſe of Gowrie, till they riſe again ſuddenly in the Hills of Kinnoull and Moncrieff, that emphatically mark the weſtern extremity of the colonade. The ſecond is the Ochills, beginning near the moſt northern and eaſterly extremity of Fife, on the ſouthern banks of the Frith of Tay, oppoſite to Dundee, and terminating in the Kippen Hills, near Stirling. The third and laſt ſub-diviſion of that range of hills which forms the ſouthern boundary of that great ſtrath, or valley, which interſects the iſland, is the Campſey Hills, which gradually ſink and diſappear near Dunbarton, and which ſhoot off a branch, in a ſouth-eaſterly direction, towards Kirkintilloch.

Between the firſt and ſecond of theſe ſubdiviſions, then, which are formed by the great rivers of the Tay and the Forth, and nearly at an equal diſtance from the eaſtern and weſtern boundaries of that ſpacious plain which runs acroſs the iſland, ſtands the Town of Perth, celebrated in the Scottiſh hiſtory, as the frequent ſeat of Parliaments, and the reſidence of Kings, who exerciſed there the prerogative of coining money, and other acts of royalty, and from whoſe bounty it derived, and now enjoys, a valuable domain, as well as many immunities, rights, and privileges.

The Town of Perth, called antiently Bertha, was, in former times, ſituated on the northern banks of the Almon,

near

the junction of that river with the Tay. But, in the year 1,200, in the reign of William, the town, with the very ſoil on which it ſtood, was ſwept off in one night, by a dreadful inundation of the rivers. In this calamity many of the inhabitants, with their ſubſtance, loſt their lives. An infant ſon of the King's, with his nurſe, and fourteen domeſtics, were among the number of thoſe that periſhed. A new Bertha, or as it is now called, Perth, by a change in pronunciation incident to all living languages, was built on a fertile plain, two miles below, on the ſame river. Hence the regularity and beauty of Perth, formed on a regular plan by the Court of Scotland, which held at this period, and for many years before, an intimate correſpondence both with France and Italy. Nobles, princes of the blood, kings themſelves left, for a time, the ſequeſtered and rude regions of their native Caledonia, to diſplay their valour, and acquire new accompliſhments on the Continent. England, which divided Scotland from France by local ſituation, united it to that kingdom by the band of hoſtility to a common enemy. And thus, from the northerly poſition of Scotland, which connected it by political intrigues with the enemies of England, Scottiſh travellers and ſoldiers of fortune, imported into their country, in times of very general barbariſm, ſome cuſtoms and modes of thinking that were either unknown, or, from animoſity, rejected by their ſouthern neighbours. This concluſion, which might be fairly drawn, even by reaſoning a *priori*, from moral nature,

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and the hiſtory of nations, is placed beyond doubt, by hiſtorical records, and the very texture of the Scottiſh dialect, in the earlieſt ſpecimens of which we meet with words of both French and Italian extraction.

There was formerly a wooden bridge at Perth, which was ſwept away towards the end of the laſt century, by an uncommon flood, in that ſeaſon when diſſolving ſnows, pouring down in liquid torrents from the Grampians, rend aſunder the icy chains that bind the river, and daſh them with irreſiſtible force againſt every obſtacle. After the demolition of this wooden ſtructure, an army, ſent by King William againſt the inſurgents in the north, paſſed over the Tay on the ice. From the old wooden ſtructure, a very unfit antagoniſt to the Tay, the village of Bridge-End, directly oppoſite to Perth, which appears to be riſing rapidly into importance, derives its name. A cauſeway, ſtill almoſt entire, with an arch covered with flag-ſtones thrown over every brook, extending from Bridge-End, connected Perth with Scone, at once a monaſtery and royal palace. Here the fatal marble ſtone, concerning which there was a prophecy, that wherever it ſhould be found, a Scot would wear the crown, was depoſited by Kenneth the Second, who is conſidered by the hiſtorians, if not as the firſt, yet as the moſt ſubſtantial founder of the Scottiſh monarchy. This ſtone, which, according to hiſtories built on early tradition, was brought from Spain into Ireland, from Ireland into Argyleſhire, to

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which, by a bold head-land it is almoſt united, and from Dunſtaffnage, in Argyleſhire, to the centre of Scotland, was carried to Weſtminſter-Abbey by Edward I. of England, who, uniting barbariſm with profound policy, laboured, by deſtroying or carrying away whatever might ſerve to awaken a proud ſpirit of independence, to impoſe the yoke of ſlavery on an harraſſed and humble people. From the time of Kenneth II. about the middle of the fourteenth century, to that of James VII. the Kings of Scotland were crowned at Scone, which was alſo the moſt common place of their reſidence.

The Kings of Scotland, in the choice of a place of reſidence, naturally wiſhed to unite, as much as poſſible, amenity, ſafety, and centrical ſituation. It would be difficult to find, in the whole kingdom of Scotland, a ſpot that unites all theſe advantages more happily than Scone. The greateſt plain in Scotland, bounded by the greateſt ridge of mountains, enhanced the magnificence of each by the light of contraſt, while the Tay, rolling with impetuous majeſty through fertile fields, ſpread far and wide below the terrace on which the palace ſtands, ſuddenly hides his head between the Hills of Moncrieff and Kinnoull. This rapid river formed a ſtrong barrier againſt any ſudden attack from the Picts or Engliſh: perſonal ſafety was ſecured by the ſacredneſs of the place; and no ſpot could be fixed on, at once ſo ſecure and centrical.

There

There is not any town in Scotland that admits of greater improvement than Perth, or that would be more highly improved if it were poſſeſſed by inhabitants like thoſe of Glaſgow and Aberdeen. Quays would be extended downward on both ſides of the Tay: the South Inch, with the adjacent land to the weſtward, would be laid out in new ſtreets and ſquares, according to increaſing commerce and population: canals would be formed for conveying the merchandize of the place to the very doors of the ſhopkeepers, and, in the natural progreſs of things, as far as poſſible, into the country. But, however favourably ſituated for manufactures and trade, it is but of late that a ſpirit of commercial ſpirit has viſited Perth. The ſame ardour of mind that appears, now, in the efforts of Mr. Meliſs, and a few others, among the citizens of this centrical and celebrated town, in commercial improvement and political freedom, was exhauſted, in preceding periods, in religious zeal. Perth, from its local ſituation, and the temper of the people, very naturally became the centre, the *punctum ſaliens* of the Reformation in Scotland. It was to this place that John Knox repaired, immediately on his return to his native country from Geneva, where he had paſſed ſome years in baniſhment, and where he had imbibed, from his commerce with Calvin, the higheſt fanaticiſm of his ſect, augmented by the ferocity of his natural temper. Invited back to Scotland by the leaders of the Reformation, on the month of May 1559 he mounted the pulpit at Perth, and declaiming

with his uſual vehemence againſt the idolatry and other abominations of the Church of Rome, incited his fanatical audience to exert their utmoſt zeal for its ſubverſion. A prieſt was ſo imprudent, after this ſermon, as to open his repoſitory of images and reliques, and prepare himſelf to ſay Maſs. The audience, exalted as Mr. Hume obſerves, to a diſpoſition for any furious enterprize, were as much enraged as if the ſpectacle had not been quite familiar to them. They attacked the prieſt with fury, broke the images in pieces, tore the pictures, overthrew the altars, ſcattered about the ſacred vaſes, and left no implement of idolatrous worſhip, as they termed it, entire or undefaced. They thence proceeded, with additional numbers and augmented rage, to the monaſteries of the Grey and Black Friars, which they pillaged in an inſtant. The Carthuſians underwent the ſame fate. And the populace, not content with robbing and expelling the Monks, vented their fury on the buildings, which had been the receptacles of ſuch abomination; and in a little time nothing but the walls of thoſe edifices were left ſtanding. The Church where Knox preached his firſt ſermon againſt Popery is ſtill ſtanding, and divided, at preſent, into three Kirks. A deſcendant of Knox the Reformer was lately Miniſter of Scone.

From Perth the ſpirit of reformation proceeded in a ſouth-weſterly direction through Fifeſhire, into which it ſtruck alſo eaſtward, Strathern, Stirling-ſhire, Renfrew, Air-ſhire Galloway,

Galloway, and Dumfries, &c. One of the Miniſters of Stirling, not many years ſince deceaſed, was wont to take much delight in tracing and pointing out the counties and diſtricts over which the ſpirit of religious enthuſiaſm, from that period downward, prevailed, and which he ſometimes called the Lines, or the Geography of the Holy Ghoſt in Scotland. The religious ſpirit, he ſhewed, had not only ſpread over ſome of the middle, as well as the ſouthern and weſtern Counties of Scotland, but had run through Argyleſhire, though in rather a narrow channel, and penetrated, through Glenmore, into Murray-ſhire and part of Roſs-ſhire; agreeably to what we have already obſerved.

The auſtere ſpirit of the Town of Perth, which withſtood, for centuries, the influence of many viſitors and travellers, and particularly of a large proportion of the ſoldiery conſtantly ſtationed there, begins now, we were informed, in ſome ſmall meaſure to relax, as appears from ſome pleaſant ſtories that are frequent in the mouths of the tradeſmen, concerning ſome of the Miniſters thereabouts, as well as the Elders, a ſpecies of lay brethren in the Church of Scotland, correſponding to the Mahomedan Maraboots, who are raiſed to a degree of clerical dignity on account of their ſuppoſed ſanctity, without any previous education. Every pariſh is divided into a certain number of diſtricts, from four generally to ten, called commonly quarters, in each of which an Elder is appointed for the purpoſe of viſiting and praying

with the ſick, in the abſence of the Miniſter, and above all, for that of watching, and reporting ſuch petty offences as are below the cognizance of the law, and which paſs under the general name of SKULL-DUDDERY. The Elders meet weekly, in Kirk-Seſſion, after divine ſervice, and the Miniſter preſides as Moderator. They make reports of the frailties and follies of the people of their reſpective diſtricts, diſtribute the voluntary collections of money at the church doors, hand about the elements from one communicant to another, in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and vote in the choice of one of their own number to repreſent their Kirk Seſſion in the Preſbytery. It is not an unuſual piece of policy, we were told, and certainly not illaudable, for a Miniſter, when he wiſhes to reclaim a ſpendthrift of ſubſtance from his vitious courſes, or to attach him at once to his own intereſt, and to that of the Clergy, to make, which he can do, an Elder of him. The new Elder, proud of his dignity, renounces former levities and exceſſes, and behaves with due gravity and decorum. A ſubſtantial farmer, not many miles from Perth, was wont to come regularly to town every Friday, the day of the weekly market, and to ſtay, all night, tippling, and ſometimes, two or three nights. His Pariſh Miniſter called him up to the order of Elders, and he immediately became a new man. The worthy Miniſter, going one day to Perth, was ſtopped at the entrance into the town, by the landlord of the inn where his Elder, before his conſecration, was wont to ſpend many a day and night.

night. "Sir," ſaid the innkeeper, "wherein have I offended you, that you are doing all in your power to break my bread?" The Miniſter, ſurpriſed at ſuch a ſalutation, alighted from his horſe, ſtepped with the landlord into his houſe, and having called for a glaſs of wine, earneſtly requeſted to know wherein he had, unknowingly, been of diſſervice to him. He laughed heartily, when the innkeeper told him, that he had no other complaint againſt him than that of his having made Mr. ——— an Elder.

It is remarkable that, amidſt all the fanaticiſm that has for more than two centuries warped the minds of men in this place, the Public or Grammar School of Perth has been eſteemed, for more than an hundred years one of the beſt of Scotland. The two Martins, the Rectors of the School, were called the BUSBEYS of Scotland. Mr. Cornfute, who ſucceeded to the youngeſt Martin, was not inferior to either the father or the ſon in literature and taſte, while he excelled them both in philanthropy and urbanity of manners. At Perth School, as at the beſt ſchools in England, the youth of the firſt forms are initiated into the beſt Greek, as well as the Latin Claſſics. Lord Mansfield received the rudiments of his education at Perth, under Martin, and Lord Stormont under Cornfute.

Tueſday, 26th July. Leave Perth in the morning, and paſſing through the South Inch, aſcend a gentle eminence, formed

formed by the ſloping baſe of the Hill of Moncrieff already mentioned, over which the great road is carried to Edinburgh, called the Cloven Craggs. Here the traveller from the South is ſtruck with the ſudden appearance of Strathmore, and the Grampians, the Tay, with the town and the bridge of Perth: and the traveller from the north, with the charming valley of Strathern, through which a river of conſiderable magnitude, iſſuing from a lake of that name, about twenty-four miles diſtant from its junction with the Tay, meanders in a moſt romantic and pleaſing manner. It is bounded on the ſouth by the Ochills, green, and ſoftly-ſwelling hills, under luxuriant cultivation, and covered with graſs to their higheſt ſummits. Gentle acclivities riſe from its northern banks, which here and there ſeem to diſcriminate Strathern from Strathmore, but which ſink and diſappear when you aſcend any eminence; ſo that the courſes of both the Ern and the Tay are ſeen as one varied and vaſt expanſe.

Strathern is fuller of gentlemen's family ſeats, than any other diſtrict of equal extent in Scotland. The lower part of the valley, which is a continuation, as it were, of the Carſe of Gowrie, from which it is ſeparated by the Tay, is extremely fertile, and highly cultivated; and here ſtands Abernethy, the capital of the Picts. But the great number of gentlemen's ſeats with which Strathern abounds, is not to be accounted for from its fertility only: for the Carſe of Gowrie,

Gowrie, and other tracts, are equally fertile, though not ſo well adorned with commodious and elegant manſions. The Lower Strath-Ern, commencing from a promontory of the Ochills, called Craig-Roſſie, is inhabited by noblemen and gentlemen, who have part of their eſtates in the hilly region on the ſouth ſide, or in the leſs ſheltered, as well as leſs beautiful plain of Strathmore, on the north. And the Upper Strathern, extending from the promontory juſt mentioned to Lochern, is not only the abode of the gentlemen whoſe ſole property is on the ſpot, but alſo of others whoſe eſtates only touch, as it were, on Strathern, and which lie, for the greateſt part, backward amidſt the Grampian Mountains.

Amongſt the delightful places of reſidence encloſed in the boſom of woods, or plantations, which adorn Strathern, are Duneira, lying on the north ſide of the river a mile below Lochern, the charming retreat of Henry Dundas, Eſq. than which nothing can be more wild, romantic, and delightful. The approach from the eaſt is choſen with great taſte. In the whole of this place it is Nature that is ſeen: never forced, though ſometimes aſſiſted. Two miles lower down the river lies the village of Comrie, erected within theſe few years, by the judicious attention of the proprietor, Mr. Drummond. It conſiſts of from 20 to 30 houſes covered with ſlate, and their number is daily increaſing. There are two bakers in Comrie, and, part of the year, a market for beef,

beef, mutton, poultry, cheeſe, butter, and other articles. One ſhop-keeper ſells to the amount of 1,400l. ſterling annually. There is a ſtone bridge here, over the Ern, built through the patriotic exertions of a late clergyman of the pariſh, by a collection of money from his pariſhioners and others for that purpoſe. This bridge leads to a large plain called Dalganroſs, where are the remains of a Roman camp containing ſixteen acres, beſides a caſtellum on its northern face. Here it is that Mr. Gordon, in his *Itinerarium Septentrionale*, ſuppoſes the great battle to have been fought between the Caledonians, under their leader Galgacus, and Agricola, ſo beautifully deſcribed by the Hiſtorian Tacitus: but this muſt be a miſtake, as the ground could not have admitted the number of combatants that is mentioned, nor could the Caledonian chariots have deſcended from thoſe rugged mountains. Two miles from Comrie you come to Lawers, on a ſhelf of a mountain, formerly the reſidence of Sir James and Colonel Muir Campbell, who ſucceeded to the title and eſtates of the Earl of Laudhon, but now poſſeſſed by Major Robertſon. Two miles farther down the Ern you are ſtruck with Auchtertyre, in the midſt of a natural wood, alſo on the ſide of a mountain, with the lake or loch of Monivaird immediately below, and the united width of Strathern and Strathmore for a proſpect. This is the romantic manſion of Sir William Murray, who, happily uniting philoſophy with practice, has ſhewn the world how much it is in the power of human art to extract a plentiful

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crop from a barren ſoil. This reflection carries our view eaſtward, to Dollerie, the reſidence of the Laird of Crieff, who has alſo forced the cold and barren moor to wear the livery of the verdant lawn; and who, uniting a taſte for literature and general improvement, with the ancient hoſpitality, and ſome of the ancient prejudices, too, of his country, exhibits an originality of character not leſs amiable than reſpectable. Mr. Murray, of Abercarnie, on the one ſide of Dollerie, and Captain Drummond, of Pitkellenie, on the other, ſhew how many uſeful leſſons in agriculture and general improvement may be learnt by military Officers, and corroborate what has been ſaid on the expediency of encouraging Half-pay Officers to ſettle on the Crown and other waſte lands.

Two miles from Auchtertyre, lower down on the Ern, on a ſpur of the Grampians, ſtands the village of Crieff, which is daily increaſing in ſize, induſtry, and population. In the center it has a ſquare and fountain, planted round with trees, which ſupplies the inhabitants with water. The ſituation of this place is equally commodious and beautiful; but very little attention is paid to cleanlineſs. Here the great Military Road paſſes from Stirling to Inverneſs, over a handſome bridge, built by Government. This road, as well as bridges over every river and brook through which it leads, was formed at the public expence. The bridges are kept in conſtant repair by Government; and the road,

which is very good, is kept in repair principallyby the Statute Labour, with a little aſſiſtance from the ſoldiery. The Statute Labour is executed in kind. There are no turnpikes in the Highlands, nor in any part of Scotland, North of the Ern; though they now talk of eſtabliſhing them in the Counties of Perth and Angus. If they ſhall be tried, and found to anſwer the purpoſe, it will be a proof of the increaſed traffic and proſperity of the country. The natural woods in the vicinity of Crieff, part, no doubt, of the *Sylva Caledonia*, were, ſo late as the beginning of the laſt century, a harbour for wolves. It is proved, by manuſcripts of unqueſtionable authority, that during the reign of Charles I. when the plague raged in this country and neighbourhood, a number of men in arms were ſeen paſſing by the infected perſons tents, at Auchtertyre, already mentioned, in the Pariſh of Monivaird, chaſing two wolves from the Wood of Strowan, which they followed to this part of the Highlands before they were ſlain: and theſe are ſaid to have been the laſt wolves heard of in Scotland. Eagles, of a very large ſize, were wont to build their neſts in the craggy precipices of Glen Almon, and to commit great devaſtation among the young kids and lambs. But of late the inhabitants have contrived methods to deprive them of their young, in the old eagle's abſence; by which means they have driven them to forſake their neſts, and leave that part of the country. Daniel de Foe, in his Tour through Britain, ſpeaking of that part of Glen Almon which is next to Crieff and the low

low country, ſays, that the hollow through which the road paſſes from Crieff to Inverneſs, is ſo narrow, and the mountains on each ſide ſo high, that the ſun is ſeen but two or three hours in the longeſt day. This deſcription we found, on enquiry, to accord exactly with the truth. In this part of Scotland, where the Highlands project farther than any where elſe into the low country, we find, as might be expected, very many remains of both Roman and Caledonian antiquity. The Mountain of Benvoirloch, three thouſand and three hundred ~~miles~~ *feet* in perpendicular height, riſes by a gentle aſcent from Loch Ern, till its precipitous ſouth-weſtern front is ſeen by a ſpectator from Stirling Caſtle, in a line with thoſe of Ben Lomond, Ben More, and Ben Leddie. That mountain, with the hills on either ſide of Glen Artney, or, according to the ancient and juſt orthography, Glen Brittany, are the firſt that the Grampian Bulwarks oppoſe to the progreſs of an invading army advancing from the ſouth. Accordingly, around, or in the vicinity of this bold profile, forming, as it were, a magnificent baſtion between the two great inlets into Caledonia, from the eaſt and ſouth, the courſes of the Tay and the Forth; around this great ſalient angle, we every where find remains of Roman camps, forts, cauſeways, tumuli, &c. raiſed againſt the Caledonians: as, on the other hand, we meet with ſtriking veſtiges of Caledonian warriors, and warfare againſt the Romans, and other invaders. Near the Bridge of Buchandy, on the Almon, eight miles from Perth,

and four from Crieff, is a cluſter of tumuli, or Roman burying-places; and, about a mile from theſe, a Roman camp, and, hard by, a Roman houſe in ruins, of a circular form, the walls of which are about two feet above the ſurface of the ground. Not far from this Roman camp, on the brow of the Hill of Dunmore, are the remains of a great many Caledonian houſes, or of what may be called a ſtraggling village; for, in ancient times, the Scots or Caledonians placed their habitations upon the tops of high hills, in order to prevent any ſudden ſurpriſe from their neighbouring clans. On the top of this hill ſtands what the country people call a Giant's Caſtle; an ancient fortreſs of great ſtrength, whether Daniſh or Caledonian. It is ſurrounded with two rows of walls; the inner wall is about nine feet thick, and the area within it about two hundred feet in diameter. The outer wall is about one thouſand feet in circumference. As this hill has a commanding proſpect of Perth, where there was a Roman ſtation, it has been conjectured, with ſome degree of probability, that the Romans had uſed it as a *ſpeculatorium*, and from thence gave their armies intelligence when the Caledonians were coming over their mountains. There is another Roman out-poſt upon the top of a hill two miles north-eaſt from this fortification.

In that awful part of Glen Almon, already mentioned, where loſty and impending cliffs, on either hand, make a ſolemn and almoſt perpetual gloom, is found Clachan-Oſſian,

ſian, or monumental ſtone of Oſſian. It is of uncommon ſize, meaſuring ſeven feet and an half in length, and five feet in breadth. About fifty years ago, certain ſoldiers, employed under General Wade in making the Military Road from Stirling to Inverneſs, through the Highlands, raiſed the ſtone by large engines, and diſcovered under it a coffin full of burnt bones. This coffin conſiſted of four gray ſtones, which ſtill remain, ſuch as are mentioned in Oſſian's Poems. Oſſian's ſtone, with the four gray ſtones in which his bones are ſaid to have been depoſited, are ſurrounded by a circular dyke, two hundred feet in circumference, and three feet in height. The Military Road paſſes through its centre.

That this was, in reality, the burying-place and the monument of Oſſian, is rendered highly probable by many other circumſtances, beſides immemorial and uniform tradition. The frontier between Caledonia and that part of Great Britain that was ſubdued by the Romans, very naturally became the theatre of action and glory to the contending nations. Nor is there any thing more natural than to ſuppoſe that Fingal and his warriors might have often fixed thir reſidence in the neighbourhood of thoſe mountains, in order to watch the movements of the enemy.

Many of the ancient Gaelic poems make mention of Oſſian having reſided upon the water of Bran, which flows

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in a parallel direction, at the diſtance of only three or four miles from the Almon, and falls into the Tay near Dunkeld. And, at the head of Glen Turret, which touches on Glen Almon, in the Pariſh of Monivaird, there is a ſhealing, or Summer cottage, called *Renna Cardich*, or the *Smith's-Sheal*, where is to be ſeen the foundation ſtones of houſes, and what are ſaid to be large heaps of aſhes: and ſome of the old Gaelic poems of the country inform us, that there was an iron work here, and that the ſwords and arms for Fingal's army were made at Lochenlour, four miles in the valley below. That the iron was brought from this place, is further confirmed from the peats caſt in that part of the country. Theſe burnt in kiln-pots leave a plate of yetlin amongſt the aſhes, which the country people call a *dander*. A tradition alſo prevails, that Oſſian was proprietor of part of Monivaird, a place that muſt, in ancient times, have been famous for Bards, as that term, in Gaelic, ſignifies the Bard's Hill.

About the middle of Glen Almon, and about three miles diſtant from Clach-Oſſian, in a glen named Corriviarlich, or the Glen of Thieves, is a cave known by the name of Fian, or Fingal's Cave, though afterwards poſſeſſed by a race of thieves. The entry to this cave is five feet in height, and four feet in breadth; the road in the middle, is about eighteen or twenty feet high, and the length about thirty feet. This cave is overtopped by a high rock or hill;

and

and on the left ſide of the door, or entry, is a large flat ſtone, which is ſaid to have been drawn by the Fians, or Fingalians, to the mouth of this cave, as a defence from the cold, or from wild beaſts:—before the cave is a fine green plain, and an high pine-tree, three feet in diameter. The glen is proper for paſture, and may be about one mile long, and two miles broad.

There is another high hill, or rock, in Glen Almon, that overtops all the reſt, with a proud extended creſt, known by the name of *Sron nu huath Bhidh*, or the Noſe of the Cave: there is a great hollow under ground, where it is ſaid a giant once reſided, who entertained a malicious grudge againſt Fingal, when he dwelt at Fian Theach.

Great many of the Poems of Oſſian, tranſlated by Mr. Macpherſon, chiefly relate to Fingal's exploits in Ireland, and upon the North and Weſt Coaſt of Scotland. The rapid progreſs which the Saxon language made in the Low Country, from the days of Malcom Caunmore, not only rooted out the Gaelic language in that part of the Country, but has alſo with it, no doubt, occaſioned the loſs of many of Oſſian's Poems; there are ſtill, however, fragments in the ſame tranſlation, where frequent mention is made of Fingal's exploits upon the Banks of Carron, in the County of Stirling.

" Beneath the voice of her King, we moved to Crona
" (a ſmall

" (a ſmall rivulet which diſcharged itſelf into the River
" Carron) of the ſtreams, Toſcar of graſſy Lutha, and Oſ-
" ſian young in fields. Three bards attended with ſongs.
" Three boſſy ſhields were borne before us: for we were to
" rear the ſtone, in memory of the paſt. By Crona's moſſy
" courſe, Fingal had ſcattered his foes: we had rolled away
" the ſtrangers like a troubled ſea."

Herodian, Dio, and other writers, make mention of the Emperor Severus, having paſſed the two walls, and fought in perſon with the Caledonians, and their leader, which, very probably, may have been Fingal, and perhaps the above poem relates to that part of the hiſtory. It cannot, however, be imagined that Fingal, who, at that time, anno 207, was Chief of the Caledonians, could have remained inactive, when ſuch a powerful army was at hand; and indeed it appeared that the invaſion of Severus had ſuch an effect upon the Caledonians, that they ſent Ambaſſadors to ſue for peace, which was rejected: the conſequence was, that a bloody engagement commenced, in which the Caledonians proved victorious, and the Emperor returned with the loſs of many thouſands of men.

The Romans again made another effort againſt the Caledonians, under their leader Caracalla. Fingal met them upon the Banks of Carron, where a battle enſued, in which the Romans were again defeated with conſiderable loſs.

Selma,

Selma, in Morven, which is ſaid to have been Fingal's chief reſidence, is only about ſixty computed miles diſtant from Glen Almon, and Oſſian, Fingal's ſon, would, no doubt, continue to rouſe the army after his father's death, by his martial example, and warlike ſong; and probably chooſed to have his reſidence near the ſpot where there was the greateſt danger: the Roman camp, the forts and *tumuli* nigh to Clach-Oſſian, are evident proofs that this part of the Country was the ſcene of action, ſo early as the time when the Romans came into this part of the iſland.

Beſides what is above related, it may not be improper here to take notice, that it is the opinion of ſeveral reſpectable Clergymen and others, in the neighbourhood of Glen Almon, that the ſtone in queſtion was known by the name of *Clach-Oſſian* beyond the memory of any living perſon; and, indeed, the names of places nigh the ſpot, will, in ſome inſtances, ſerve as farther proofs: upon the other ſide of the Almon, and not far diſtant from the camp, is a ſmall village named *Fian-Theach*, i. e. Fingal's Thatch-houſe, or Hall; and at the weſt end of Loch Fraochy, is a place named *Dall-Chillin*, or Fingal's Burial Place. Whether this was Fingal's burial place, or not, ſhall be left to the determination of the Gaelic critics.

The many caves which we find in the Highlands, and which, to this day, are ſaid to be caves for the giants to re-

in, are with them, ſtrong proofs for the authority of their fables; whereas, it is evident, that thoſe caves were places of ſafety in antient times, when purſued by their enemies, or probably for places of reſidence, as we find is the caſe in Iceland, and many other countries even to this period; where the inhabitants live in caves, or dens, under rocks and under ground, which are not only the moſt proper places for ſecurity from their enemies, but are likewiſe better adapted for their preſervation from voracious animals, with which Scotland abounded at a period ſo early as the days of Oſſian. This Country being at that time overrun with woods, afforded ſhelter to wolves and bears, enemies to the human race, and they had no other place of ſafety for their reſidence, but either in their caves, or upon the tops of the hills. Hence it is, that there are few hills in the Highlands, but what have to this day, veſtiges of caſtles and houſes; and which, in conformity to the formerly received notion of giants caves, are called *Giants Caſtles*, or the Fians Caſtles, which may be eaſily underſtood to be caſtles poſſeſſed in the Fingalian age, or age of giants or mighty warriors. I have farther learned, that when Oſſian's ſtone was moved, and the coffin containing his ſuppoſed remains diſcovered, it was intended by the officer commanding the party of ſoldiers employed on the military road, to let the bones remain within the ſtone ſepulchre, in the ſame poſition in which they were found, until General Wade ſhould come and ſee them, or his mind be known on

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the ſubject. But the people of the country, for ſeveral miles around, to the number of three or four ſcore of men, venerating the memory of the Bard, roſe with one conſent, and carried away the bones, with bag-pipes playing, and other funereal rites, and depoſited them with much ſolemnity within a circle of large ſtones, on the lofty ſummit of a rock, ſequeſtered, and of difficult acceſs, where they might never more be diſturbed by mortal feet or hands, in the wild receſſes of the weſtern Glen Almon. One Chriſtie, who is conſidered as the *Cicerone* and Antiquarian of Glen Almon, and many other perſons yet alive, atteſt the truth of this fact, and point out the ſecond ſepulchre of the ſon of Fingal.—Theſe obſervations relate to former: what follows, to preſent times.

It is thought that in the Highlands, in general, there are many more females than males. Few of the former, but very many of the latter leave the country for life. The number of old maids is greater than that of old batchelors at leaſt in the proportion of two to one. The families, in the Highlands of Perthſhire, conſiſt, on an average, each, of the man, or, as he is called, the good-man, the wife, a maid-ſervant or a grown up daughter, and three ſmall children. Theſe, when grown up to the length of twelve years of age, are commonly ſent out to ſervice. It is thought that the Low Country farmers could not labour their ground without ſervants from the Highlands. Moſt of

theſe return and marry at home; but ſeveral ſettle in the Low Country. In the Highlands of Perthſhire, as well as in Argyle, Roſs, Inverneſs, &c. men of years and obſervation are ſtruck with the moſt unequivocal proofs of depopulation: of which alſo there are too many inſtances in the Lowlands; ariſing from exceſſive rents, unfruitful ſeaſons, contagious diſeaſes, and an immoderate increaſe in the ſize of farms from the practice of throwing ſeveral tenements into one hand, and converting too much arable into paſture ground. But, in reſpect to the Highlands of Scotland, the moſt rapid depopulation, as has been obſerved again and again, but cannot be too often repeated, proceeds from extenſive ſheep-walks. Where theſe prevail, the people have been diminiſhed a half, or two thirds.

Among the cauſes of depopulation in Scotland, and particularly the Highlands, contagious diſeaſes are enumerated juſtly: becauſe, although theſe be more or leſs incident to all countries, there are circumſtances which extend their doleful domain in Scotland, beyond their uſual limits. The people are all of them Fataliſts, or believers in predeſtination; and aſcribe all ſerious events to the particular intervention of a particular Providence. Around the couch of the ſick and dying, relations and neighbours repair in crowds, for the purpoſe of giving their medical advice, as well as the aid of their prayers and religious exhortations. To avoid ſuch duties, from an apprehenſion of infection,

would

would be deemed brutality to man, and impiety towards God. Thus, diſeaſes are ſpred, and the mortality is great. In the Highlands, in the ſummer, and harveſt, both men and women are much under a hot ſun, and are often wet with heavy rains, at a great diſtance from home. Theſe extreme and ſudden changes bring on coughs, which at firſt are little thought of, but which often end in conſumptions. Rheumatiſms are frequent, and there are ſeveral old people who have their fingers diſtorted by a cramp. The gout is rarely heard of, and, perhaps, was never bred in the Highlands. There are no home-bred agues, which is owing to the dryneſs of the air, and the purity of the water. Inſtances of longevity are frequent. It is not accounted any thing very uncommon for a huſband and wife to live each of them to ninety years and upwards. Not a few are found in every conſiderable diſtrict above an hundred. The Highlanders are in general healthy. The nature of their country enures them to exerciſe and temperance; and they are free from thoſe vices and diſorders that prevail in the lower ranks in manufacturing villages and towns. The general ſize of the men is about five feet ſix inches; though, among the gentlemen and ſubſtantial graziers, where it is not ſtinted by penurious living, there are many who riſe ſeveral inches above ſix feet.

A plough of land in the Highlands, which is ſometimes held by one man, and ſometimes in equal ſhares, even by four,

four, is, on an average, about fifteen Scotch, or twenty Engliſh acres of arable land, beſides a certain extent of hilly, or paſture land. Very little of the country is encloſed: though they are beginning now to be very generally ſenſible of the advantage of encloſures as well as of ſown graſs. The beſt arable, and beſt incloſed paſture and meadow land, is, on an average, about thirty ſhillings an acre: the inferior ſort, from fifteen to twenty. The ordinary paſture ground, or what is mooriſh or hilly, goes along with the arable and paſture ground into the bargain. As, on the one hand, farms may be too large, ſo, on the other, they may be too ſmall. All thoſe below a plough of land fall within this laſt predicament: inaſmuch as they are inſufficient for keeping their poſſeſſors in full employment for the whole year. If, as farms fall in, and as manufactures advance, the more ſubſtantial tenants had as much land as a plough could labour, they would have a ſurplus produce to anſwer the demands of the manufacturers. The young men who at preſent, leaving home, ſettle in great towns in the Low Country, as footmen, or ſmall ſhopkeepers, or rent an ale-houſe, or enliſt in the army, would, more profitably to themſelves and to the community, be engaged, under the eye of their relations, in productive labour. But whether, and to what extent the diſadvantages under which the Highlands at preſent labour, may not be unfavourable to the eſtabliſhment of manufactures, is left to the judgment of thoſe who know how eaſily a ſpirit of induſtry may

may be prevented, but, at the ſame time, what progreſs it may make, under many diſcouraging circumſtances, when it is once excited. The moſt obvious difficulties with which a manufacturer of enterprize and capital in the Highlands would have to contend at preſent, are the want of fuel, the diſtance and difficulty of acceſs to the peat moſſes, the intermixture of tenements in runrigg, as it is called, the want of green forage, and very little hay for the Winter.

It would, in time, and that not very long, ſupply abundant fuel, and be in other reſpects advantageous, as well as ornamental to the country, that the barren hills ſhould be planted with Scotch firs and larches, plantations of which would ſtart up in ground at preſent ſcarcely worth 6d. an acre. Green forage, and hay for Winter, would be produced, if the proprietors of land would encloſe more of their fields. The tenants, it is ſaid, are not inſenſible of the advantages of ſown graſs and turnips, but the openneſs of the fields makes this improvement impracticable or unprofitable. The ridges ought to be ſtraightened, and every tenant ſhould have his farm, not in the way of runrigg, but by itſelf.

It would be farther worth while, in caſting a practical eye over the Highlands, and particularly what may be called the inland or central Highlands of Scotland, to enquire into articles that this part of the country produces, or is naturally

rally fitted to produce; the price of thoſe articles when produced, and alſo the price of labour. The common vegetables are barley, oats, ſome peaſe, leſs rye, and great quantities of potatoes. In their gardens they have, all of them greens, and ſome of them a few eſculent roots, as onions, turnips, and carrots. The ſoil is favourable to garden and field vegetables. Of trees, to which alſo it is very favourable, it produces oaks, aſhes, elms, beeches, ſycamores or plane trees, poplars, birches, limes, larixes, common firs, ſpruces, allers, willows, laburnum, walnut-trees, hollies, elder, and any ſort of trees that may be planted, and are ſuited to the climate. The bark is clean, and the growth quick. The oak, aller, birch, and aſh, ſhoot up from the old ſtock. The ſoil is alſo favourable to fruit-trees, gooſeberry and currant-buſhes, &c. Oats are ſown after the middle of April, and cut down in the end of September. Flax-ſeed is ſown about the middle of May, and the flax pulled about the middle of Auguſt. Potatoes are planted in the firſt weeks in May, and are fit for uſe towards the end of Auguſt. They ſow barley towards the end of May, and begin to reap it towards the end of Auguſt. In Murray, as has already been obſerved, and perhaps a few other places on the coaſt, the ſeaſons are ſomewhat earlier. But here we ſpeak of what is inland, and properly the Highlands.

The fuel commonly uſed is peat, turf, wood, heath, and broom.

broom. A ſmall cart-load of peat, drawn by a ſmall horſe, coſts one ſhilling in Summer, and one ſhilling and ſixpence in Winter. The peat and turf are at a diſtance, and up-hill.

The oak woods are cut down when they reach from twenty to twenty-five years. They are then fit for agricultural utenſils, and timbering for the roofs of houſes, and valuable on account of their bark, which is uſed in tanning leather. They are ſold high, and advancing in price. Aſh and elm bring from a ſhilling to ſixteen pence per cubic foot. The plane tree, which is uſed in turnery, was formerly of little value, but now gives a good price. The birch, which is uſed for the ſame purpoſe, though of leſs, is faſt increaſing in value. The few firs that are cut for deals raiſe from eight pence to twelve pence per foot.

The quadrupeds, are deer, cows, ſmall horſes, ſheep, hogs, goats, dogs, cats, badgers, foxes, otters, hares, rabbits, weaſels, pole-cats, &c. The birds, eagles, vultures, hawks, hens, ducks, geeſe, grouſe, the moor-cock, ſubſiſting on the tops of heather, caper-caily, a bird that lives on the bark of trees, partridges, ſnipes, plovers, tails, common crows, jays, hooded crows, ptarmachan, white in Winter, and grey in Summer, magpies, kites, ravens, ſparrows, thruſhes, linnets, larks, blackbirds, gold-finches, bull-finches, and ſeveral other ſmall birds. Wild geeſe, herons, and woodcocks viſit the

Highlands, as other parts of Scotland, in Winter. About twenty years ago, the late Duke of Athol ſet ſome pheaſants looſe in the woods, and they ſeemed to increaſe for ſome time, but are now extinct. As the paſture ground is either bad in quality, or greatly over-ſtocked, cows and ſheep are in moſt places ſtinted in their growth, being ſmall, lean, and ill ſhaped. Land, at preſent, is ſold from twenty-ſeven to thirty years purchaſe. The prices of beef, mutton, and pork, are from 3d. to 4d. per lb.: about thirty years ago, they were from a farthing to 2d. A chicken, which twenty years ago might be had for 1½d. now coſts 3d. The average price of butter, two and twenty ounces Engliſh to the pound, is 8d. that of cheeſe in Summer 4d. bear or big, a poor kind of barley, fetches, on a medium, 14s. per boll: ſeed oats, 16s. oat-meal, from 13 to 15s.

For ſeven months in the year, the men labour hard, that is, during ſeed-time, Summer and Harveſt: and during thoſe months, the women labour as hard as the men, bearing a ſhare in all kinds of field, or out-work, without exception: while, in the Winter ſeaſon, from October to March, part of both incluſive, they ſit at their ſpinning-wheels ſixteen or eighteen hours at a time out of the four and twenty. The men, during the Winter, have little other employment than that of threſhing out the ſtraw of oats, peaſe, and barley, for two horſes and three or four cows.

The

The annual wages of a labourer, who often keeps a family, and lives contented, are, computing all advantages, about ſix guineas: thoſe of a maid-ſervant from 2l. 10s. to 3l. Thirty years ago, the male ſervants had two guineas; the maid ſervants 1l. 10s. Day-labourers in huſbandry earn 6d. a day, and their victuals; 10d. and 1s. without victuals; taylors, 6d. with their victuals; coopers and houſe carpenters, 8d. and their victuals; maſons, 10d. and their victuals.

Concerning the earnings and expences of a married day-labourer, it is proper to be more particular. His family lives principally upon oaten and barley meal and potatoes. He is above thirty, as well as his wife, at the time of their marriage. As the mother ſuckles her children, there are two full years between every birth.

The huſband earns 6d. a day, as has been already ſtated, and his victuals. The tenant, from whom he has his cottage, gives him a ſmall plot for his potatoes, on which four or five bolls are produced. His cottage and ſmall garden, at a medium, may coſt him ten ſhillings. The day-labourer, who is employed in Summer and Harveſt in out-work, and in Winter dreſſes flax, maintains his family with greater eaſe. But the preſent calculation is confined to the ordinary day labourer. His plot of potatoes, dreſſing his garden, and the making of peats, &c. may take up four weeks

yearly. The perſon for whom he works carries home his fuel gratis. In harveſt he earns double of his ordinary income: but this we place oppoſite to extraordinary expences. The wife may ſpin a ſpindle of linen yarn a week: the half of what a woman ordinarily ſpins who is not encumbered with children. Out of the refuſe of the flax ſhe buys, ſhe ſpins harn ſhirts for the family. She purchaſes wool for a gown and petticoat to herſelf, and for cloaths to her huſband and children. We ſuppoſe that lying in, caſual ſickneſs, and ſpinning linen and woollen for her family, take up twelve weeks every year. After paying the flax, ſhe may have fifteen pence clear from every ſpindle.

Our calculation then ſtands thus:	£.	s.	d.
The huſband earns in 48 weeks, at 3s. per week	7	4	0
The wife in 40 weeks	2	10	0
	9	14	0
The expence of a wife and five children, the oldeſt eight years, the youngeſt an infant, (the huſband eating with his employer) 8 bolls of potatoes, at 5s. per boll, but 4 of theſe produced on his plot of potatoe ground	1	0	0
Three bolls of oat-meal, at 14s. per boll, . .	2	2	0
Two ditto barley meal, at 10s.	1	0	0
Carried over, ...	4	2	0

Brought

	£.	s.	d.
Brought over, ...	4	2	0
Three ſtone of cheeſe, at 5s. per ſtone, . .	0	15	0
Whey, ſour milk, and ſmall beer, ...	1	0	0
Two pair of ſhoes for the man at 4s. a pair, and mending each pair at 1s.	0	10	0
One pair of ſhoes for the woman, ...	0	2	6
The woman wears no ſhoes for half the year; the children wear none in any ſeaſon.			
Two pair of Tartan hoſe for the man, at 1s. per pair	0	2	0
A pair of ſtockings for the woman	0	1	6
Three pecks of ſalt at 1s. per peck, and 8lbs. of ſoap, the whole at 5s. 4d.	0	8	4
For chips and candles, or oil, ...	0	3	0
For a lean hog, ...	0	8	0
Rent of cottage and garden, ...	0	10	0
Taylor, 3s. weaver, 7s.	0	10	0
Lying-in, and caſual expences, ...	1	3	8
	£9	14	0

A few of the ſubſtantial farmers, and handicraftſmen, with here and there a ſhopkeeper, perhaps, and a keeper of an ale-houſe, ſlaughter a ſmall cow in November, and a hog, or two perhaps, in the Spring. Several of the labourers, too, according to the ſtatement above, fatten a hog for their own uſe.

The

The Highlanders in general, in reſpect to cloathing and linen, are more expenſive than they were twenty years ago. Many of the young men wear even Engliſh cloth; and of the girls, printed cotton: a thing unknown till lately. In their way of living, they are great œconomiſts. It is remarkable, that though the Act againſt the Highland dreſs has been repealed, very little alteration has taken place, in conſequence of what was generally deemed an Act of great indulgence. The men wear very commonly duffle great coats, and upper ſhort coats of any colour. Nay, ſome of them, inſtead of Tartan philibegs, wear breeches; the natural averſion of the Highlanders to which teguments is emphatically expreſſed by the Erſe or Gaelic term, which, literally ſignifies a lock for the poſteriors. In a word, the intercourſe of the Highlanders being greater than heretofore with the Low Country people, their manners and cuſtoms are more and more aſſimilated.

Let us now return to the entrance into Glen Almon, the geographical point from whence we have taken occaſion to make the foregoing remarks on the ſtate of ſociety in the interior or middle Highlands. At the Bridge of Buchandy, which is within ten miles of Perth, and four of Crieff, the people on the north ſide of the river ſpeak the Gaelic, and thoſe on the ſouth, the Engliſh language. This is the ſpot where the Erſe language, and the Highland cuſtoms and manners, penetrate fartheſt into the Low Country. The

people

people on the confines, between the Highlands and Low-lands, ſpeak many of them both Erſe and Engliſh; juſt as on the borders of France and Germany, they ſpeak both German and French.

It has been computed that a canal for boat-navigation between Crieff and Perth, an extent of eighteen miles, might be made at the very moderate expence of 3,000l. But whether the trade be, or might probably be made ſuch as to indemnify that expence, ſmall as it is, is a matter that muſt be left to the conſideration of the gentlemen of the country, among whom we find Mr. Graham, of Balgowan, and Mr. Smith, of Methven, who have given many proofs of public ſpirit, and to whom the canal juſt mentioned cannot poſſibly appear to be an object of indifference.

Two miles South from Crieff, on the great military road, you ſee Drummond Caſtle, ſituated on the top of a rock, riſing in a beautiful bay of land covered with a fine natural wood, and a number of ſtately planted trees. Caſtle Drummond commands Strathmore, as far as the eye, unoppoſed by hills or banks, can reach, and down Strathern and the Frith of Tay, as far as the Town of Dundee. Machany, three miles farther down the River Ern, the antient ſeat of the noble family of Strath Allan, would have ſhewn to Doctor Johnſon, if he had happened to viſit it, that timber trees

grow

grow in Scotland, and that a veneration for the antient ceremonies and orders of the Church, is not baniſhed wholly from the main land to the iſles on the weſtern ſhores of Scotland. It is impoſſible to paſs over the venerable beauties of Innerpaffray, fronting Caſtle Drummond, in a concavity of the ſerpentinizing Ern, its caſtle, the antient ſeat of the Lords of Maderty, its chapel, public library, and ſchool, both eſtabliſhed for the good of the community, and carrying back the mind to the antient ſituation, and the genius of Scotland. The hall where the books are kept at Innerpaffray, is both ſpacious and elegant: but the ſalary allowed to the Librarian, not amounting to ten pounds annually, is miſerably ſmall, and ſhould certainly be augmented. Paſſing along the Banks of the Ern, on the remains of a Roman cauſeway, yet almoſt entire, and called by the country people the Street Road, you come to Gaſk, the ſeat of Mr. Oliphant, where there is a great extent of land incloſed with ſtone dykes, and interſperſed with plantations of firs, which, where the ground is not very much frequented by ſheep and cattle, ſpread themſelves rapidly over the adjoining moors: ſo congenial is the pine with the climate of Scotland. Three miles eaſt from Gaſk is Dupplin, the reſidence of the Earl of Kinnoull, to whoſe eſtate, according to the valued rent, the largeſt in Scotland, Innerpaffray is now united. Dupplin Caſtle is ſweetly emboſomed in a moſt extenſive park, where there are more old trees than in moſt other places in Scotland, on a riſing ground

that

that commands the lower Strathern, and at full tide a view of the Frith of Tay. On the oppoſite ſide of the valley, on the northern ſide of the Ochills, and about a mile weſtward, is the houſe, and the wood of Invermay, the ſubject of a fine Scotch ballad and air, through which the water of May, repleniſhed with the moſt beautiful and delicious trout, precipitates itſelf in many a fantaſtic form, and, after interſecting a pleaſant plain below, diſcharges itſelf into the Ern at the Bridge of Forteviot. At Forteviot, a ſmall village with a church, there once ſtood a monaſtery, with a hunting ſeat of King Malcolm Cannmore. Veſtiges of the monaſtery were to be ſeen at a ſmall eminence, called the Haly, that is, the Holy Hill, within the memory of the preſent generation: but palace, monaſtery, and the Haly Hill itſelf are now completely ſwept away by the capricious ſallies of the water of May, which continually changes its gravelly bed, and ſports with the toils of laborious man. It appears from what remains of the Pictiſh Hiſtory in Scotland, that though Abernethy, ſituated near the junction of the Ern with the Tay, was conſidered as the capital of the Picts, Forteviot was the moſt uſual reſidence of their Kings.

It would be tedious to enumerate, much more to deſcribe, all the manſions, with adjacent pleaſure ground, which run in a continued chain from the conflux of the Ern and the May to that of the former of theſe rivers with the Tay, a courſe of twelve miles, and form one ſpacious and beautiful

incloſure. It may juſt be mentioned, that in this groupe we find the pleaſant reſidences of Mr. Oliphant, of Roſſie, a gentleman diſtinguiſhed by his ſkill in huſbandry, and what is called the police of the country; of Lord Ruthven; of Sir Thomas Moncrieff; of Mr. Kier, of Kilmont; and of the Knights of Balmanno, now attached, ſince the blooming virtue of the late Sir Alexander Murray was ſealed by an honourable death, to the family and eſtate of Invermay. In the lower Strathern there is a famous ſpring of ſaltiſh water, called Pitkethly Wells, uſed with eminent ſucceſs in ſcorbutic, and other caſes. The upper Strathern, from the lake of that name to the village of Crieff, called the Montpelier of Scotland, is reſorted to in the Summer, for the purity of the air, goat-whey, and its rural charms, by people from Edinburgh, Glaſgow, and other places. Woods, mountains, lakes, and the *ſolum ſiccum cum aquis fluentibus* conſpire to render this one of the moſt charming ſcenes that imagination can conceive. There are ſeveral lakes and rivers called by the name of Erne, which ſignifies the Weſtern Water, both in Scotland and Ireland. Strathern in Perthſhire was antiently a Principality, or County-Palatine, and the inheritance of a branch of the Royal Family of Scotland. It ſtill gives a title to a Prince of the Blood of England.

Where the country riſes by degrees from the bed of the Ern towards the roots of the Ochills, about ſeventeen miles from

from Perth, and nearly the ſame diſtance from Stirling, ſtands a long ſtraggling village, called Auchterarder, once a Royal Burgh, but now known chiefly as the ſeat of a Preſbytery, diſtinguiſhed by a ſingular union of Popiſh and Antinomian principles: claiming the prerogatives of a Court of Inquiſition, exalting the power of the church in temporal concerns, reprobating with ſuperlative zeal, as if there were danger of men growing too good, the efficacy of virtue towards the attainment of future as well as preſent happineſs, and magnifying the importance of certain metaphyſical notions in Theology, which they call operations of grace, and acts of faith. In the end of the laſt, and the beginning of the preſent century, when the doctrines of the kirk of Scotland, one would imagine, were ſufficiently puritanical, the Preſbytery of Auchterarder thought it neceſſary to form an Antimonian Creed for themſelves, as being a peculiar people, zealous, not of good works, but of myſterious faith. With regard to matters of diſcipline, in which they were, and ſtill are rigid to exceſs, except to thoſe whom they conſider as being in the faith, and firm in oppoſing lay-patronage, the frailty that excites their ſevereſt indignation and vengeance is fornication. It is a fact, that in moſt of the kirks there is a ſmall gallery, fit to contain about half a dozen of perſons, and painted black, placed in an elevated ſituation, near the roof of the church, which they call the cutty-ſtool, and on which offenders againſt chaſtity are forced to ſit, during the time of divine

ſervice, for three Sundays, making profeſſion of their repentance, and receive a rebuke from the miniſter in the face of the congregation. The horrid ſhame of the cutty-ſtool often drives unfortunate females to commit the crime of infanticide. It has been remarked, that ſuch of the clergy as are the leaſt ſtrict in their own private lives, are often the ſevereſt in their cenſure of backſliders in public: and, on the contrary, that thoſe are the moſt liberal and tender in the adminiſtration of public diſcipline, who, in their own private lives, are the moſt diſtinguiſhed by purity and ſimplicity of manners: of which one amiable and reverend gentleman in this diviſion of the Church of Scotland is ſaid to exhibit a conſpicuous proof and example.

Auchterarder ſeems to have lain under the curſe of God ever ſince it was burnt by the army in the year 1715. The dark heath of the moors of Orchill and Tullibardin, a Gothic caſtle belonging to the Duke of Athol, the naked ſummits of the Grampians ſeen at a diſtance, and the frequent viſitations of the Preſbytery, who are eternally recommending faſt-days, and deſtroying the peace of ſociety by prying into little ſlips of life, together with the deſolation of the place, render Auchterarder a melancholy ſcene, wherever you turn your eyes, except towards Perth and the lower Strathern, of which it has a partial proſpect. About a mile ſouth and weſt from Auchterarder, in a glen formed by the water of Ruthven, and the roots of the Ochills,

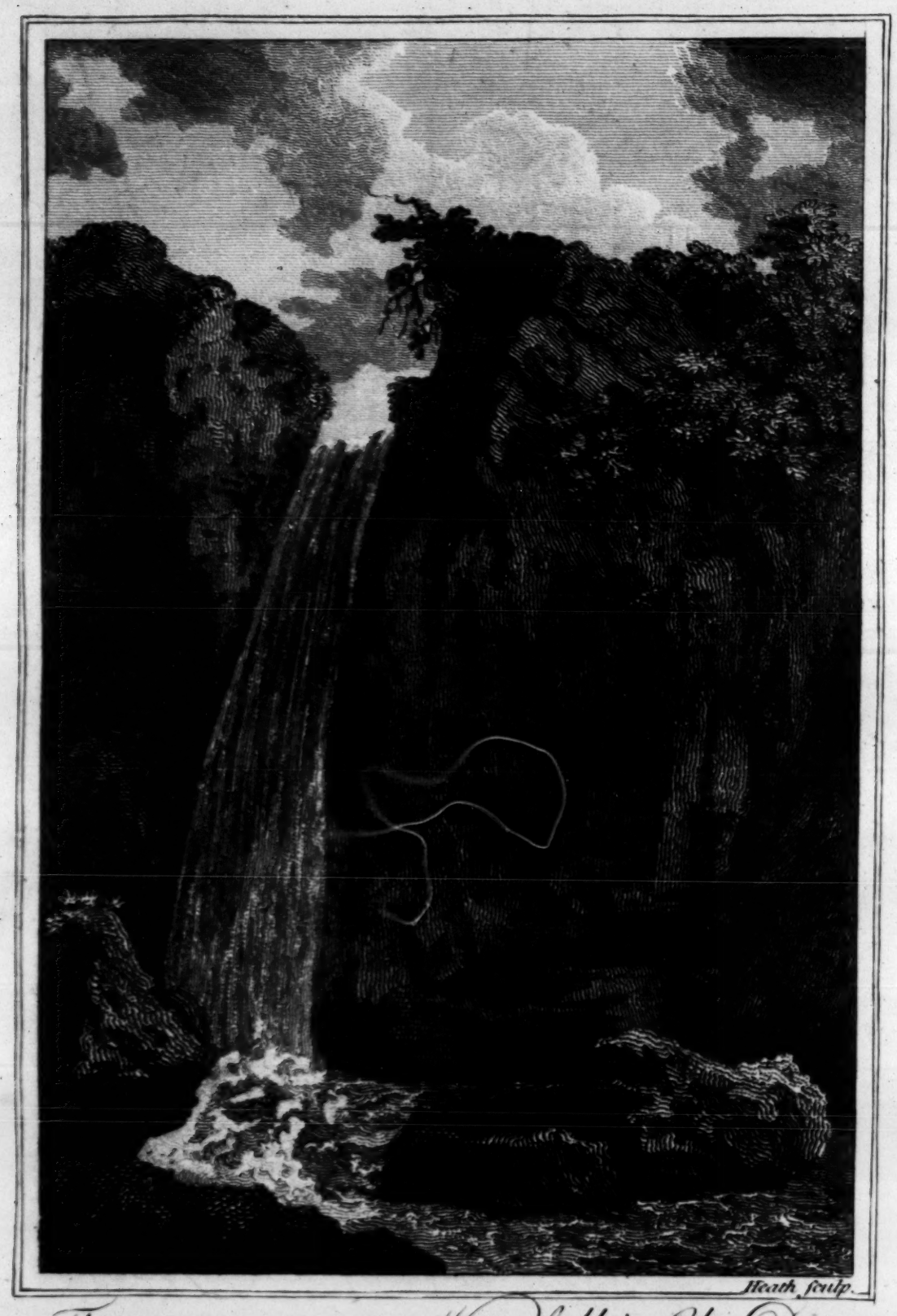
Ochills, in the midſt of an extenſive wood, ſtands Kincardine, the old ſeat of the Grahams, and the reſidence of the great Marquis of Montroſe. Nearly oppoſite to this, at the ſouthern roots of the Ochills, on a wooded peninſula, where the extremity of a ſloping hill is almoſt ſurrounded by deep ravines, in ſome places improved by art, ſtands Caſtle-Campbell, a ſeat of the Marquis of Argyle. It was impoſſible that the heads of two powerful clans, living ſo near one another, and on the oppoſite ſides of a narrow range of hills, could be good neighbours. The Marquis of Argyle burnt the caſtle of the Marquis of Montroſe: and the Marquis of Montroſe burnt the caſtle of the Marquis of Argyle. It is characteriſtical of the mutability of human affairs, and the change of the times, that part of the eſtate of Kincardine is now the property of a gentleman of the name and family of Argyle, and that another part of it has been purchaſed by another gentleman with a fortune, acquired, not by arms, but by commerce. As we have thus ſtepped over the Ochills to Caſtle-Campbell, which commands a viſta of the vale of Devon, let us relieve the gloom of Auchterarder, by a proſpect of that delightful ſcene.

The Devon, a truly paſtoral river, riſes in the Ochills, almoſt due north from its entrance into the Forth, and a very few miles, in a direct line north and ſouth, from its mouth; though the nature of the ground has forced it to take a very circuitous courſe. From its ſource it runs in a ſouth-

ſouth-eaſterly direction, ſometimes ruſhing precipitately down the broken declivities of the mountains, and, in others winding gently in the bottoms between them. The ſcenery is, almoſt every where, delightful: the verdure is luxuriant, and the variegated ground feaſts the eye at every ſtep with a novelty of proſpect. At the yates, or gates of Muckhart, which open a communication between Clackmannanſhire and Strathern, it finds a paſſage, and deſcends into the vale of Devon. Here it runs in an oppoſite direction, exactly parallel to its former courſe. It glides along with an infinity of windings to the weſt, and then, bending to the ſouth, loſes itſelf in the Forth.

The vale to which the Devon gives its name, is at once fruitful and beautiful: for, though art and induſtry have not every where ſeconded Nature, yet the green ſwells of the Ochills to the north, the fine meanders of the river amidſt meadows and corn fields, the diſtant proſpect of Stirling Caſtle to the Weſt, the magnificent Forth rolling his waves on the South, and the fertile Carſes of Stirling and Falkirk, covered with villages and gentlemen's ſeats, bounding the proſpect, preſent an aſſemblage both grand and pleaſant. The Devon, in one part of the valley, has been obliged to work its way through obſtructing rocks. In the lapſe of ages, it has worn away the ſofter part of the ſtone, and formed immenſe pits, into which the water falls with a noiſe and fury truly tremendous. The hollow ſound

which



The CALDRON LINN, a Waterfall in Glen-Devon, Perthshire.

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which proceeds from the bottom of the chaſm, and the boiling turbulence occaſioned by the fall of the river upon the inequalities of the rocks, appal every ſpectator. Juſt below this, the whole river is precipitated, in one ſheet, from an height of an hundred feet, upon huge ſtones, torn from the face of the rock. This fall, from the boiling appearances juſt mentioned, is called the *Chaldron Linn*. As objects of this kind are not to be viewed to advantage from above, it is proper to go down by the north-weſt ſide of the Dell, where the deſcent is eaſy, that you may have a proſpect of the cataract from below. By that way you enter a narrow glen, which ſeems a perfect paradiſe. The immenſe ſheet of water pouring from the rock, exhibiting in its upper parts all the colours of the rainbow, and appearing below, where it falls upon the rocks, like white duſt or vapour; this admirably contraſted by the dark and ſilent face of the abrupt rock, in moſt parts rugged and naked, but in ſome preſenting a few ſhrubs and pendulous trees: theſe circumſtances united, make an impreſſion on the mind of ſomething that is ſolemn and awful; arreſt the giddy tumult of human hopes and fears, and invite to ſerious reflection, and ſublime contemplation. The oppoſite ſide of the glen is of a different character. The deſcent is gentle and eaſy, covered with green and flowery turf, ſtrewed, towards the bottom, with moſſy ſtones, and fragments of rocks, from the ſides of which ſpring wild roſe-buſhes, and a variety of other ſhrubs. Theſe, with the trees that grow

over

over your head, on either ſide of the chaſm, give ſhelter to a number of birds that make the vale reſound with their ſongs. The mind is ſoon tired of objects by which it is ſo ſtrongly excited. The traveller, therefore, quits the cataract, and ſtrolls by the ſide of the river, which, in the courſe of two or three hundred yards, ſinks into a calm, and ſteals ſilently along its banks.

The whole extent of the Ochills, from the Tay to the Forth, preſents a pleaſing picture of paſtoral ſcenery and paſtoral life. Gently-ſwelling hills, verdant to their ſummits, and clothed with flocks of ſheep, or herds of cattle; rivulets ſtealing through their defiles, or falling in hoarſe murmurs from cliff to cliff; hamlets and villages ſometimes ſkirted, ſometimes encloſed in natural woods of hazel, oak, and birch; and, above all, an equal, and, if I may be allowed the phraſe, a democratical diviſion and diſtribution of landed property, conſpire to render the Ochills one of the ſweeteſt, if not the ſweeteſt region in Scotland. In the Ochills the land is divided into ſmall eſtates, from twenty to two hundred pounds a year: and, with rural ſimplicity and health, the independent cultivators unite, in no inconſiderable degree, the poliſh of towns and cities. The countries watered by the Tay, the Ern, the Forth, and the Devon, open a ready market for the produce of their farms: ſheep, cattle, wool, butter, and cheeſe. The maſter and miſtreſs of thoſe happy families are ſeen every week going to mar-

ket

ket with ſome article or other, to Perth, Kinroſs, Dumfermling, Alloa, Culroſs, Kincardin, Dunblane, and Stirling: in which places their ſons and daughters are placed in boarding and grammar ſchools for their education. Thus a pleaſing and beneficial intercourſe is carried on between the inland and mountainous, and the low and maritime country: and thus the gods of the hills are at peace with the gods of the plain. Though the microcoſm of experience diſſipate the illuſory miſt of romantic fancy, and diſcover ſudden ills in every human lot, yet it is difficult for the human mind, prone to contemplate whatever wears the appearance of innocence, ſimplicity, and content;—it is difficult for a ſtranger to view this ſmiling aſpect of nature, and this mediocrity of fortune, without indulging a momentary recollection of the fabled ſtories of the golden age, and contraſting the town with the country life.

From the aptitude of this diſtrict to run into oak, and from the affinity of ſound, it has been vulgarly ſuppoſed that Ochills is the ſame as oak-hills. But this is diſcovered to be an error, when we attend to the common pronunciation of the people, that often preſerves the true etymology of words, and to the verbal criticiſm of thoſe who are acquainted with the Gaelic or Celtic language. The people of the country do not ſay OCHILLS, nor yet AICHILLS, but *the* AICHILL HILLS; meaning the *Woody Hills*, for *a choile*, or *a chule*, in Celtic, ſignifies *the wood*. On this ground it

may be ſubmitted to the judgment of Antiquarians, whether this woody country was not the *Sylva Caledonia*, the wood by way of eminence, a term which the Roman writers extended, by degrees, to denote all that part of North Britain that lay beyond the Frith of Forth? In ſupport of this conjecture, it may be obſerved, that at the time of the Roman Invaſion, the Ochills would ſtrike an army looking northward with the appearance of one vaſt wood. On the banks of the Ern, in the pariſh of Muthill, or the Moot-hill, near Innerpaffray already mentioned, there is a place, belonging to a gentleman of the name of Hepburn, called Culquhoilly, that is, the End of the Wood. It is believed that if the Ochills were preſerved from the cattle, and ſuffered to run wild into an immenſe foreſt, it would ſupply timber ſufficient for the whole Navy of England.

At Auchterarder we got out of the corn country, which extends the whole way from Montroſe to this place, on the ſouth ſide of the Great Strath, and to Crieff on the North. I do not think that England can produce, in any part of it, a larger tract of better corn. There is not any poſt-chaiſe kept at Auchterarder, although, as has already been obſerved, it is nearly midway between Perth and Stirling. In this part of the country, from Auchterarder to Dunblane, eſpecially in the Ochills, they raiſe a good many black cattle, and a few ſheep. At Blackford, as well as at Crieff, there is a great annual fair for black cattle, which are brought

brought thither towards the end of harveſt, from all parts of the Highlands, and the Weſtern Iſlands of Scotland. In proportion as the country is improved, this ſpecies of traffic muſt decay. Even now, it is for the grazier to conſider whether he might not bring his cattle to a better account by ſalting or ſmoaking the beef, and ſelling the hides and tallow, than by ſending them into England. The cattle yield, on an average, from 4l. 15s. to 5l. per bullock: nearly the ſame price as in the Highlands. The country between Auchterarder and Dunblane, where Strathmore is conſiderably narrowed by the mutual advances of the Grampians and the Ochills, and which is called Strath Allan, is not, for the moſt part, ſo fertile, or ſo well cultivated as other parts of Strathmore; but the plantations and other improvements made by Sir William Stirling, of Ardoch, General Grœme, of Braco, and Mr. Stirling, of Kier, have here and there changed the bleak countenance of the country, and improved it conſiderably.

At Ardoch is the moſt entire Roman camp in Britain, well worthy of being viewed by the curious traveller. This is ſuppoſed, and with great probability, to have been a conſtant ſtation, Summer and Winter, during the ſeven campaigns made by Agricola in ~~Caledonia~~ Britain; and by ſome to have been the Roman city, or fortified camp, VECTORIA. From this permanent ſtation, a vicinal or croſs road is carried through Glenartney to Galganroſs Moor, near Comrie

already mentioned. The Romans appear undoubtedly to have occupied the gorges, or great paſſes into the Grampians from Dunbarton to Stonehaven. We find Roman camps at Callender, Comrie, Ardoch, Monzie, Inchtuthill near Dunkeld, Blair Gowrie, &c. &c. The vicinal road that leads through Glenartney, from the great camp of Ardoch to that at Galganroſs near Comrie, a ſpace of eight miles, paſſes through the roots of the mountain of Benvoirlich already mentioned, which, though not the loftieſt, yet from its central ſituation between the German and the Atlantic Ocean, and its advanced ſtation in the low country, commands the moſt various, extenſive, and noble proſpect of all the hills and mountains in Scotland. From the ſummit of Benvoirlich, the amazed ſpectator ſees on the north, mountain riſing on mountain in endleſs and impenetrable mazes; on the eaſt, the roots of the Grampians, with the whole extent of Strathmore, and the peninſula of Fife, diminiſhed to a narrow tongue of land, ſtretching out between the Friths of the Tay and the Forth; on the South, the Pentland, the Soutra, and part of the Cheviot Hills, and Arthur's Seat, and the Caſtles of Stirling and Edinburgh; and on the weſt, the continuation of Strathmore through Menteith, the Eſtuary of the Clyde, Lochlomond, ſeveral ſalt-water lakes or inlets of the ſea, and the diſtant mountains of Arran, Cantire, and Jura. On the higher part of this bold profile of the Grampians, the harmleſs ptarmachan, ſimpleſt of birds, finds his food, where even vegetation

tation ſeems to die, and as fearleſs of danger as unacquainted with rapacity, ſuffers the ſhepherd boy to come ſo near him as treacherouſly to knock him down with a ſtick or a ſtone. Farther down the mountain's brow, you may ſee a ſolitary goat perched on the ſide of a rock, and, at a diſtance, numerous troops of deer wandering at large in the extenſive foreſt of Glenartney. Sheep and cattle occupy the lower regions; and, on the ſide of Lochern, its baſe is fringed with ſmall fields of corn, interſperſed with natural wood. Here, on a ſmall promontory of land, jutting into Lochern, ſtands the houſe of Mr. Stuart, of Ardvoirlich. The preſent proprietor, renouncing the chicane of the law, though as a lawyer he might have greatly improved his fortune, lives in deep ſolitude, but ever prompt to diſcharge all the offices of humanity, whenever the exigencies of the traveller call forth his hoſpitality, or the neceſſities of the poor his compaſſion, or the injuries of the oppreſſed his juſtice. The Author of the Seaſons has ſuppoſed a man of philoſophical melancholy to caſt a *glance* on London from the riſing ground at Norwood, in Surry.

" Perhaps from Norwood's oak-clad hill
" When Meditation has her fill,
" I juſt may caſt my careleſs eyes
" Where London's ſpiry turrets riſe,
" Think on its cares, its griefs, its pain,
" Then ſhield me in the woods again."

Few

Few ſituations afford an opportunity of contraſting the world with the receſſes of ſolitude, on ſo great and ſublime a ſcale as that which is every day enjoyed by Mr. Stuart, of Ardvoirlich. From the baſe of the mountain, waſhed by Lochern, a ſheet of water, eight miles in length, and two in breadth, he may walk, on his own ground, from four to five miles to its top, from whence he may ſurvey ſubjected cities, lands, and ſeas, and then return to his own ſequeſtered and ſweet manſion.

In the midſt of thunder, lightning, and hard rain, the Ochills ſcowling on the one hand, and the horrid Grampians on the other, we paſſed by on our way to Stirling, the northern ſkirts of the Sheriff-muir, the ſcene of action between the King's troops in the year 1715, and thoſe of the Pretender under the Earl of Marr. The road here is the worſt we met with ſince we left Fort William. Four miles on this ſide of Stirling is Dunblane, in times of epiſcopacy a Biſhop's See, and where there is a good library founded, in old times, like that of Innerpaffray, and on the eſtate of the ſame noble proprietor, by a ſubſcription among neighbouring gentlemen, for the inſtruction and entertainment of the public. There is a much better fund here than at Innerpaffray, for a librarian, for purchaſing new books, and maintaining the ſtructure that contains them. By a pleaſant walk on the banks of the Allan, the traveller is led to

ſee

A. Grant dell

Heath Sculpt.

A VIEW on the FORTH near STIRLING.

ſee the Big Tree at Kippenroſs, about half a mile from Dunblane.

After paſſing through the bleak Muirs of Orchill and Tullibardin, and ſkirting the Sheriff-muir from Auchterarder to Dunblane, you are ſtruck with the rich proſpect of the Carſe of Stirling, and the romantic view of Stirling-Caſtle, Abbey Craig, and Craig Forth, which opens to view two miles from Dunblane ſouthward. Having croſſed the Forth on a large ſtone bridge, we arrived in the evening of Tueſday the 26th of July, at Stirling.

Stirling, July 27th. In the morning we went to view the Caſtle. It is built on a high rock, the weſt ſide of which is at leaſt an hundred feet perpendicular in height. Within the walls is the Parliament Houſe, which is a very large room, but now nearly unroofed, and falling to ruin. The Palace, alſo a very large place, is now turned into barracks for ſoldiers. The garriſon, at preſent, conſiſts of 100 men, and a Fort-Major; and about thirty-ſix guns are mounted on the ramparts. The Town of Stirling is built on the ſouth-eaſt ſide of the rock; the houſes very old, and the ſtreets narrow.

As the Scottiſh nation extended their authority ſouthward, by their conqueſts over the Picts and Danes, and by their intermarriages with England, the uſual places of their

reſidence

reſidence became more and more ſoutherly alſo. Dunſtaffnage was exchanged for Scone; Scone for Dunfermling and Falkland; Dunfermling and Falkland for Stirling; Stirling for Linlithgow and Edinburgh; and, at laſt, Edinburgh for London. But amidſt theſe changes, after the eſtabliſhment of the monarchy of Scotland, the natural boundaries which marked the land, confined, on the whole, the choice of a place of reſidence to that ſpace which is bounded by the courſes of the Forth and the Tay on the ſouth and the north; on the weſt, by the riſing of the country, towards the middle of the iſland; and on the eaſt, by the ocean. The interpoſition of the Tay recommended Scone as a proper place of reſidence in the hotteſt times of war with the Engliſh. But, after an alliance had been formed between the royal families of the two kingdoms, by the marriage of Margaret, the daughter of Henry VII. of England, and James V. of Scotland; after hoſtilities between the two nations began to be interrupted by long intervals, and the genius of both to tend to peace and conciliation, there was not a ſpot in the whole extent of Scotland that ſo naturally invited the preſence of the King and the Court, as Stirling. It is ſtill more centrical to the iſland than Scone; and the ſanctity of a monaſtery was not ill exchanged for the ſtrength of a fortreſs. From the lofty battlements of Stirling-Caſtle, the royal eye ſurveyed with pride the bold outlines of an unconquered kingdom. The Grampians, the Ochills, the Pentland-hills, conveyed a juſt idea of its natural

ſtrength:

ſtrength: the whole courſe of the Forth, with his tributary rivers, from their ſource in the Highlands, near Loch Lomond, winding through Perthſhire, and waſhing the ſhores of Clackmannan, and Fife on the north, and thoſe of Stirling-ſhire, Linlithgow, and the Lothians, on the ſouth, exhibited a pleaſing proſpect of its natural reſources in fiſhing, and in a ſoil which, though in a rude climate, would not be ungrateful to the hand of cultivation. From this point of view alſo, the imagination of a Scotchman is led, by many remembrances, to recal to mind the moſt important viciſſitudes, and ſcenes of action, in the hiſtory of his country. The whole extent of Strathmore, from Stirling to Stonehaven, is full of Roman camps and military ways, a matter that has been of late well illuſtrated by the ingenuity and the induſtry of General Melville; and the wall of Agricola, a little towards the ſouth of Stirling, extends between the Forth and the Clyde. Bannockburn and Cambuſkenneth, almoſt over-hung by the caſtle, remind the ſpectator of a fortunate, and Pinkie, ſeen at the diſtance of forty miles, excites a fainter idea of an unfortunate engagement with the Engliſh. The Hill of Largo, in Fife, calls to mind the Daniſh invaſions; and the Forth was, for ages, the well-conteſted boundary between the Scots and their ſouthern neighbours of different nations.

Before we leave Stirling-Caſtle, while the keen air yet blows on the ſouthward traveller with unabated force, from

the northern mountains, let us take a ſhort view of the genius and character of the Caledonians. Theſe have undergone, like thoſe of other nations, the effects of that revolution and change which is incident to every thing human. But, not to carry our reviews too far back, which would involve us in hiſtorical diſquiſition, let it ſuffice, to exhibit the portrait that was given of the Scotch Highlanders by a great maſter, towards the end of the laſt century, and then to add a few obſervations concerning ſome circumſtances omitted, and others altered, by the introduction of arts, and free government.

The celebrated Mr. Alexander Cunningham, the critic on Horace, and tutor, companion, and friend to the great John Duke of Argyll, in his Hiſtory of Great Britain, from the Revolution to the Acceſſion of the Houſe of Hanover, lately publiſhed, a work of claſſical compoſition, great information, and profound views, when he comes to give an account of the inſurrection headed by the Lord Viſcount *Dundee*, ſays, "The King commanded Major-General Mackay, his Lieu-"tenant in Scotland, to march his forces into the northern "parts, againſt the Viſcount of Dundee, who had raiſed an "army of Scotch Highlanders; a race of warriors, who "fight by inſtinct. Theſe are a diſtinct people from the "Lowlanders, of different manners, and a different lan-"guage, of a ſtrong conſtitution of body, and by nature "warlike. Though of a very ready wit, and great pre-

"ſence

" ſence of mind, they are utterly unacquainted with arts
" and diſcipline; for which reaſon they are leſs addicted to
" huſbandry and handicrafts than to arms, in which they
" are exerciſed by daily quarrels with one another. They
" take moſt pleaſure in that courſe of life which was fol-
" lowed by their anceſtors. They uſe but little corn, ex-
" cept in the ſhires of Murray and Roſs. Their food, for
" the moſt part, is milk, cattle, veniſon, and fiſh; and they
" are much addicted to pillaging and hunting. Their
" children, when newly born, are plunged in cold water,
" not from any ideas of religion, but for the purpoſe of
" giving hardineſs and vigour to their bodies, which, from
" the continued practice of cold bathing, acquire ſuch a
" degree of firmneſs, that they can live in the coldeſt cli-
" mates, even in the depth of Winter, without any other
" cloathing than a plaid; a garment ſo ſcanty, that a great
" part of their body may be ſeen uncovered: nor does this
" circumſtance, being ſanctified by habit, occaſion any
" feelings of modeſty. They are more attached by a ſimi-
" larity of manners and dreſs, and the fameneſs of name,
" than by the ties of kindred and nature. They contract
" more firm friendſhips over a pinch of tobacco-ſnuff,
" than from any natural feelings, or inſtinct of blood.
" Their daily exerciſe, and ſprightly freedom of living,
" increaſes both their ſtrength and their ſtature. Their
" women are ſeldom married young; and are, indeed, long
" unmarriageable. They drink not ſo much wine as ale

" and aqua vitæ, a ſpirit diſtilled from a kind of barley.
" By this kind of liquor they fancy themſelves to be made
" more vigorous; but that by French wines, and ſweet
" things, men are rendered effeminate. The ſick among
" them will neither let blood, nor ſuffer a phyſician to be
" ſent for, leſt their health ſhould thereby be more im-
" paired than recovered: and lawyers they mortally hate.
" Women who have newly lain in, wear only a looſe rai-
" ment, and next to none at all. Being generally well-
" ſhaped, and not unhandſome, and of great modeſty and
" ſimplicity of manners, though they go with their legs
" naked from the calves downward, they are neither ſub-
" jected to the jeers nor to the diſguſt of the men: nor do
" the Highlanders make any great account of an unſullied re-
" putation for chaſtity in the women whom they marry.
" They reckon nothing more ſhameful than to refuſe any
" thing to their Chief. Moſt of them are tall, and produce
" tall children, not being accuſtomed to hard labour or diſ-
" cipline, and ſeldom uſed to harſh treatment, or any kind
" of ſubjection. The men live to a great age, unleſs they
" chance to be cut off abruptly by an halter. Being, in
" general, poorly provided for, they are apt to covet other
" men's goods; nor are they taught by any laws to diſtin-
" guiſh with great accuracy, their own property from that
" of other people's. They are not aſhamed of the gallows:
" nay, they pay a religious reſpect to fortunate plunderers;
" but whence they derived ſuch ſentiments I know not.

" Similar

" Similar ideas prevail among the Neapolitans. Merchants
" who know them well, will not bring any goods among
" them, without a protection from their Chief; to whom
" the common people adhere with the utmoſt fidelity, and
" by whoſe right hand they are wont to ſwear. Their re-
" ligion is taken partly from the Druids, partly from Pa-
" piſts, and partly from Proteſtants. Neither do they pay
" any long or great regard to borrowed rites; but carry up
" many fabulous ſtories of their own to the higheſt anti-
" quity. They are much inclined to predictions, and ſu-
" perſtitious omens. In bearing witneſs, they are not at
" all moved by the fear of God; nor do they regard an
" oath as any thing more than mere words and ceremony.
" Neither do they give themſelves the leaſt trouble about
" the inſtitutions of religion, until they have firſt violated
" it by ſome outrage or blood. They are greatly addicted
" to lying. Even in times of peace they live by rapine.
" They account it among the moſt ſcandalous crimes to de-
" ſert their Chief, and to alter their dreſs and way of living:
" for they think that in dreſs and ancient cuſtoms, there is
" ſomething ſacred. In war, they excel on foot, but are
" little uſed to horſes, by reaſon of the ſituation of their
" country, full of dreadful woods and mountains. Their
" arms are a ſword, dagger, and ſhield; and, ſometimes,
" they make uſe of piſtols. In battle, the point to which
" they bend their utmoſt efforts, and that which they are
" moſt anxious to carry, is the enemy's baggage. If that

" once

" once fall into their hands, diſregarding all diſcipline and " oaths, and leaving their colours, home they run."

The juxta poſition of two ſentences in this quotation reconciles an apparent inconſiſtency that has been noticed by ſome who call themſelves Critics. The Highlanders do not " make any great account of an unſullied reputation for chaſtity in their brides. They reckon nothing more ſhameful than to refuſe any thing to their Chief." Though far from being naturally immodeſt, ſuch is their veneration for their Chiefs, that they deem it an honour to be, in all things, ſubſervient to his will. It often happens, accordingly, that a young woman has borne a child to a Laird, before ſhe is courted by her huſband: and that child is brought up with great tenderneſs, and receives an equal portion with the children of the marriage. Nor will this ſeem ſurprizing, when we reflect that there is ſomething perfectly analogous to it, among ourſelves, in high life. A lady of faſhion is not ſo much diſhonoured, in the common eſtimation of the world, by the embraces of a Prince or King, as ſhe would be by an illicit connection with an inferior or equal.

I cannot help obſerving, that in the admirable ſketch of the Scotch Highlanders, drawn by Cunningham, there is not the leaſt mention of their paſſionate love and genius for muſic, as well as the kindred ſtrains of moving, though

ſimple

ſimple poetry. The remote Highlanders are, at this day, as fond of poetry and muſic as the antient Arcadians, who, bleſſed with a fertile ſoil and genial climate, poured forth, in natural and affecting airs, the warmeſt emotions of the heart. The muſical and poetical compoſitions of the Highlanders were ſeldom committed to writing, but handed down, from generation to generation, by oral tradition. The ſubjects of theſe were, for the moſt part, love, war, and the pleaſures of the chace: and their general tone or ſtyle, was not ſprightly and gay, but, on the contrary, ſad and tragical. The firſt efforts of the Muſes, in every country and age, are employed on melancholy themes, as being the moſt ſtrongly marked by the light and ſhade of proſperous exchanged for adverſe circumſtances, and which take the ſtrongeſt hold of the heart. But the very aſpect of nature, in the Highlands of Scotland, is ſad: and a conflict, ſeldom interrupted, with hoſtile clans, or with a harſh climate and penurious ſoil, deepened the general gloom. Hence, although the little wealth of the Highlands conſiſts in cattle, rural ſcenes are introduced in their poetry but ſeldom. And, were one to form a judgment concerning the employment of the Highlanders, even from performances unqueſtionably modern, he would conclude that they were not ſo much ſhepherds as hunters. Their compoſitions, whether of muſic or poetry, were the natural productions, and perfectly ſuited to the taſte of a country, where, within the memory of man, every male, without

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exception, was trained to arms: and where huſbandry, and even paſturage, were followed no farther than neceſſity required. It is not long ſince ſheep and goats, in the Highlands, were conſidered as below the care of a man, and reputed the property of the wife, in the ſame manner as geeſe, turkies, and other poultry are in the Low Countries, and in England. Even at this day, there is nothing that appears to a Highlander, when he comes to the Low Country, ſo unnatural and unmanly, as to ſee a man milking a cow.

That the muſic and poetry of any country bears a near relation to its common purſuits, to the great objects of its hopes and fears, is illuſtrated in a very ſtriking manner by thoſe of the inhabitants of St. Kilda, whoſe inſignificance and remote ſituation ſecure them from invaſion, as their poverty and primitive equality protect them from angry feuds. When the winter ſtore of this little commonwealth is ſafely depoſited in a houſe called Tigh-a-barra, its whole members reſort to this general magazine, as being the moſt ſpacious room in their dominions, where they hold a ſolemn aſſembly, and ſing one of their beſt airs to words importing, "What more would we have? There is "ſtore of *cuddies* and *ſayth*, of *perich* and *allachan*, laid up for "us in Tigh-a-barra." Then follows an enumeration of the other kinds of fiſhes that are hung up around them, to which

which, in the courſe of their ſinging and dancing, they frequently point, with expreſſions of gratitude and joy.

The Reverend Mr. Macdonald, Miniſter of Kilmore in Argyleſhire, on whoſe teſtimony theſe particulars are here related of the St. Kildians, received from a friend in the Iſle of Skye, a St. Kilda elegy, the effuſion of a young woman who had loſt her huſband by a fall from the rocks of Soa, a ſmall rocky iſland near St. Kilda, when employed in catching fowls. Of this elegy, found among people in whoſe veracity Mr. Macdonald has entire confidence, he gives the following tranſlation. " In yonder Soa left I the " youth whom I loved. But lately, he ſkipped and bound- " ed from rock to rock. Dextrous was he in making every " inſtrument the farm required, diligent in bringing home " my tender flock. You went, O my love! upon yon " hanging cliff, but fear meaſured not thy ſteps! Thy foot " only ſlipt---you fell---never more to riſe! Thy blood " ſtained yon ſloping rock; thy brains lay ſcattered around! " All thy wounds guſhed at once. Floating on the ſurface " of the deep, the cruel waves tore thee aſunder. Thy " mother came, her grey hairs uncovered with the kerch: " thy ſiſter came, we mourned together: thy brother came, " he leſſened not the cry of ſorrow. Gloomy and ſad we " all beheld thee from afar, O thou that waſt the ſeven-fold " bleſſing of thy friends! the ſhiny *lhonne* [rope of raw " hides] of their ſupport. Now, alas! my ſhare of the

" birds is heard ſcreaming in the clouds: my ſhare of the
" eggs is already ſeized on by the ſtronger party. In yon-
" der Soa left I the youth whom I loved."

The Gaelic poetry now extant, was, no doubt, compoſed for the moſt part by the bards who were once entertained in the families of Lords and Chieftains. There was alſo an order of ſtrolling rhapſodiſts, who went about the country, reciting their performances for a livelihood.

Throughout the whole of the Highlands there are, at this day, various ſongs ſung by the women to ſuitable airs, or played on muſical inſtruments, not only on occaſions of merriment and diverſion, but alſo during almoſt every kind of work which employs more than one perſon, ſuch as milking cows, watching the folds, fulling of cloth, grinding of grain with the *quern* or hand-mill, hay-making, and reaping of corn. Theſe ſongs and tunes re-animate, for a time, the drooping labourer, and make him work with redoubled ardour. In travelling through the Highlands, in the ſeaſon of Autumn, the ſounds of little bands of muſic on every ſide, joined to a moſt romantic ſcenery, has a very pleaſing effect on the mind of a ſtranger. There is undoubted evidence, that from the 12th to the 15th century, both inclusive, the Scots not only uſed, but, like their kindred Iriſh, excelled in playing on the harp: a ſpecies of muſic, in all probability, of Druidical origin. But, beyond all memory

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or tradition, the favourite inſtrument of the Scotch muſicians has been the bag-pipe, introduced into Scotland, at a very early period, by the Norwegians. The large bag-pipe is the inſtrument of the Highlanders for war, for marriage, for funeral proceſſions, and other great occaſions. They have alſo a ſmaller kind, on which dancing tunes are played. A certain ſpecies of this wind muſic, called *pibrachs*, rouzes the native Highlander in the ſame way that the ſound of the trumpet does the war-horſe; and even produces effects little leſs marvellous than thoſe recorded of the antient muſic. At the battle of Quebec, in April 1760, whilſt the Britiſh troops were retreating in great confuſion, the General complained to a Field-Officer of Fraſer's regiment, of the bad behaviour of his corps. " Sir," anſwered he with ſome warmth, " you did very wrong in forbidding the pipes to " play this morning: nothing encourages Highlanders ſo " much in a day of action. Nay, even now they would be " of uſe." " Let them blow like the devil, then," replied the General, " if it will bring back the men." The pipes were ordered to play a favourite martial air. The Highlanders, the moment they heard the muſic, returned and formed with alacrity in the rear. In the late war in India, Sir Eyre Coote, after the battle of Porto Nuovo, being aware of the ſtrong attachment of the Highlanders to their antient muſic, expreſſed his applauſe of their behaviour on that day, by giving them fifty pounds to buy a pair of bag-pipes.

Having thus taken the liberty to ſupply what ſeemed deficient in the account that is given of the Scotch Highlanders by the very learned and ingenious Cunningham, who knew them well, and was capable of contemplating them under a vaſt variety of views, it will be proper alſo to advert to the change which the operation of government has produced in the character of this people, ſince the period when they were deſcribed by that celebrated Author.

So quick and powerful is the influence of moral cauſes in the formation of the character of nations and men, that the Highlanders have actually undergone greater alteration in the courſe of the preſent century, than for a thouſand years before. Freedom and equal laws, by encouraging induſtry, ſecuring property, and ſubſtituting independent ſentiments and views in the room of an obſequious devotion to feudal Chiefs, have redeemed the character of the Highlanders from thoſe imputations which were common to them with all nations in a ſimilar political ſituation; while what is excellent in their character, the ſenſibility of their nature, the hardineſs of their conſtitutions, their warlike diſpoſition, and their generous hoſpitality to ſtrangers, remain undiminiſhed. And, though emancipated now from the feudal yoke, they ſtill ſhew a voluntary reverence to their Chiefs, as well as affection to thoſe of their own tribe and kindred: qualities which are not only very amiable and engaging in themſelves, but which are connected with that character of

alacrity

alacrity and inviolable fidelity and reſolution which their exertions in the field have juſtly obtained in the world. So ſtrong, indeed, has the ſpirit of clanſhip appeared to be in ſome inſtances, even now, as almoſt to juſtify the poſition that if certain appearances prove that human nature pants after freedom, there are others which ſeem to indicate a propenſity to voluntary ſlavery. On the reſtoration of the eſtates annexed to the Crown in 1746, to the heirs of the forfeiting families, the tenants of Frazer of Lovat, who were all of them of the ſame name with their landlord and Chieftain, and who had obtained from the Crown, previouſly to the reſtoration of the eſtates, long and beneficial leaſes of their farms, reſigned theſe leaſes to their Chief, and renewed them with him at much ſhorter terms, and almoſt double rents.

By the feudal ſyſtem, all who held *in capite*, of the Crown, both in England and Scotland, and, no doubt, in other countries, were obliged to give perſonal attendance in parliament: and thoſe *free tenants* comprehended not only the great nobles, but the leſſer barons, among whom the king's burgeſſes, it is probable, were originally included. The great barons, or ariſtocracy, in the natural courſe of things, acquired in both the Britiſh kingdoms, a decided ſuperiority in the public councils. The leſſer barons and burgeſſes, uneaſy in their ſituations, as well as unable to bear the expence of repeated attendance, began to abſent themſelves from parliament. In both Scotland and England, the ſove-

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reign, that he might be able to counter-balance the overbearing influence of the ariſtocracy, by the attendance of at leaſt a certain portion of the leſſer barons and royal burgeſſes, who in their collective capacity, were free tenants, exempted them from the obligation of perſonal attendance, upon condition of their ſending repreſentatives to parliament. That wealth which naturally ſprung from commerce and induſtry, the circumſtance of the parliament's being divided into two houſes, and that controul over the public purſe which, in proceſs of time, reſulted from both, maintained and increaſed the importance of the great body of freeholders in England: but in Scotland, where the leſſer barons and burgeſſes, with the great maſs of the people, remained poor and dependent, and the repreſentatives of the ſhires and burghs ſat in the ſame aſſembly with the nobles and the clergy, the ariſtocracy preſerved their influence over the proceedings of parliament, and, in fact, aſſumed the government of the kingdom. The great baron who poſſeſſed his caſtle, and an extenſive heritable juriſdiction, aſſumed the privilege of redreſſing every injury that was done to him, whether real or imaginary, and was the arbiter of right and wrong among his people; while the leſſer proprietors, or yeomanry of the country, were ſubjected to the will of tyrants. The amount of property which, in progreſs of time, became requiſite in parliamentary election and repreſentation, excluded the great body of proprietors from that right, and created a ſecondary order of ariſtocra-

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tical Chiefs, who, to the full extent of their power, imitated the tyranny of the nobles, or hereditary Peers of parliament. The genius of Scotland became ariſtocratical throughout. The commiſſioners to parliament from the burghs royal were elected by the town-councils of thoſe burghs, inſtead of the citizens at large. The members of thoſe councils, too, like ſo many Dutch burgomaſters, choſe, and ſtill chuſe, their ſucceſſors in office: nor, according to a late deciſion of the Court of Seſſion, a judicatory conſtituted after the model of the parliaments of France, and the higheſt in Scotland, is there any controul on the management of thoſe ſelf-created *juntos*, who, at the ſame time that they impoſe what contributions they pleaſe, convert, or may convert, a public good into a private property.

About the time of the Revolution, the advent, and the eſtabliſhment of King William and Queen Mary on the Throne, firſt of England, and afterwards of Scotland, diffuſed throughout the whole of Great Britain a lively ſenſe of the rights of mankind: and Scotland in particular, as fire is inflamed by the nitrous influence of froſt, glowed with the genuine enthuſiaſm of freedom. Mr. Fletcher of Saltoun, and other patriots whoſe notions of liberty were drawn from the ſources of Greece and Rome, and confirmed by the auſpices of the times, contended for a degree of liberty unknown even to the Engliſh conſtitution. This ſpirit of the nation, active, enterprizing, and bold, led the people of

Scotland

Scotland to attempt the eſtabliſhment of a commercial colony on the Iſthmus of Darien, the happieſt ſituation that could be imagined for the commerce of the world: and on this bottom, a great part of the wealth of the nation was embarked. The check which this magnificent, and by no means chimerical ſcheme, received from the jealouſies of the ſiſter kingdom, and the remonſtrances of Spain, damped the ardent ſpirit of the Scottiſh nation exceſſively, and, by a reflux not unnatural in the humours of men, or of nations, threw them back into a languor and inoccupation, which eaſily ſubmitted to that ariſtocratical authority and influence, to which Scotland had always been accuſtomed, and from which it never recovered until the abolition of thoſe heritable juriſdictions, in which theſe were founded. The check which the Scots received in the affair of Darien, formed, perhaps, one link in that chain of events, which led to the Union. Had the colony that was attempted at the Iſthmus of Panama ſucceeded, the ſpirit of the Scottiſh nation would have been too high and proud to have liſtened to any reaſonable terms of ſubmitting to the ſame government with England.

It is remarkable, that it was by means of the leading men of the ariſtocracy, that the Union was promoted and carried into effect; although that order of men were to ſacrifice to that meaſure, a great deal of their hereditary honours and conſequence in their native country: whereas the tradeſ-

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men, and the loweſt of the people, who certainly could not be any loſers by ſharing in the fortunes of the Engliſh, but might probably be much bettered by the change, were the firſt, when the articles of Union came to be debated in the Scotch parliament, who made a briſk ſtand for the name of liberty and ſovereign power. For the very name and antiquity of the kingdom was of great weight with the people: though what remained of it, after the removal of King James VI. into England, was no more than a vain image or ſhadow of ſovereignty: ſince the government, from that time, was committed to the hands of a few men, who not only preferred, for the moſt part, their private intereſts to thoſe of the public, but who often acted according to the orders they received from ſtrangers. But, if the colony of Darien had ſucceeded, the republican and popular ſpirit would have carried all before it.

The opponents of the Court, in the debates of the Union, inſiſted, that parliament had no authority to determine, concerning the alienation of the kingdom, ſince power was not delegated to them from the freeholders, or tenants, *in capite*, for that purpoſe. The commiſſioners ſent into England, they alledged, were neither proper judges of this matter, nor the parliament itſelf veſted with competent authority to decide a matter of ſo great importance; but that there was a right inherent in a free people, to put a ſtop to the paſſing of any law, as there was, formerly, in the tribunes

of the Roman people. A ſimilar doctrine prevails, and is eſtabliſhed into a firm and uncontroverted maxim, in the Preſbyterian government of the Church of Scotland, in which it is held, that it is not in the power of the General Aſſembly to ſubvert or change any of the eſſential uſages or laws in the eccleſiaſtical conſtitution, without the conſent of two-thirds, at leaſt, of the ſynods and preſbyteries.

The court party, on the other hand, who were friends to the Union, ſaid, that the ſupreme authority of the nation was undoubtedly veſted in the parliament; and that, "when an election was once made, neither the tenants of "the crown, or thoſe who hold of the crown in chief, nor "the magiſtrates of the cities, had any more right either to "put a negative on the paſſing of any law, or to give a "vote; but that the people had delegated all their autho-"rity to thoſe whom they had elected to repreſent them "in parliament."

When this queſtion was carried in favour of the courtiers in parliament, the people out of doors, were every where thrown into diſorder and tumult. The Duke of Queenſberry, who was the Lord Commiſſioner, or Lord Lieutenant, adjourned the Houſe till the next day, took his coach, and was followed with many reproaches by the people, who could hardly forbear to lay violent hands on him. During the whole of that night, tumults were kept up in Edinburgh.

burgh. The mob aſſaulted and ſearched the houſe of Sir Patrick Johnſtone, the Provoſt of that City; whom, if they had found him, they would have treated with great outrage, for no other reaſon, than that he was ſaid to have favoured the vote in Parliament for the Union. This ſpirit of reſiſtance ſpread rapidly over the whole country. Levies of armed men were made by ſeveral diſcontented Chiefs, who made no ſcruple of declaring their ſentiments, that the only way by which Scotchmen could now prevent the diſgrace and ruin of their country, was, to march under arms to Edinburgh, and over-awe the deciſions of Parliament. The people of Scotland entered readily into thoſe ideas and views: but the invaſion of Edinburgh and the Parliament was prevented by means partly accidental, and partly the reſult of profound contrivance. In the firſt place, the deſigns of the opponents of the Union were greatly retarded by the ſeaſon of the year, and by continual and heavy rains. In the ſecond, an artificial channel was formed for receiving the fury of the people, by which it was, with great addreſs, diverted from its object. The Duke of Queenſberry ſecretly employed Major Cunningham, an officer of very popular reputation, to raiſe the people in the weſtern parts of Scotland, who, to the common dread of taxes, and hatred of the Engliſh, added an extraordinary antipathy to Biſhops, and zeal for the ſafety of the Preſbyterian religion. The eyes of all men were naturally directed to the levies on foot in Airſhire, and other counties adjacent: and here the genius of Scotland ſeemed to make

the laſt ſtand for retaining, within the bounds of that kingdom, the name, at leaſt, and the inſignia of ſovereignty. But when the day came for the armed people to march to Edinburgh, where many of their heads had already aſſembled, their Commander, with the concurrence and co-operation of different men of conſequence who acted in concert with the Miniſter for Scotland, found means, on various pretences, to keep them back. The Union was agreed to, and ratified by both nations. But this fortunate event, which prevented that general excitement which had been occaſioned by the Revolution, from relapſing into the languor of tyranny, did not transfuſe the free ſpirit of England into Scotland, at once. The Scottiſh Barons ſtill retained their hereditary jurisdictions undiminiſhed, and ſeveral good families held their eſtates in vaſſalage of feudal Chiefs. In the former publication, I gave ſome examples; but, among theſe, was led, through miſinformation, to include that of the Robertſons, of Struan; a family who hold their eſtate directly of the Crown, having been honoured with lands, and other marks of diſtinction, on account of ſervices rendered to the Sovereign in the field of battle.

The private juriſdictions being reſerved by the treaty of Union, it was not until the year 1747, that they were re-aſſumed by the Crown, and the people of Scotland made partakers of Engliſh freedom. In this great event, we have a moſt remarkable proof and example of that principle of correction and amendment, which is inherent in political grievances;

grievances; and that abuſes, carried to extremities, lead to reformation. It was their hereditary juriſdictions that enabled the heads of certain Scottiſh clans, in 1715 and 1745, to make thoſe deſperate attempts which ſignalized, at once, the ſubjection and the martial ardour of the poor Highlanders, in favour of the Houſe of Stuart. Their dangerous effects became now apparent to all who were intereſted in the ſafety of the kingdom. As they were accounted private property, it was obſerved, that their holders might part with them for an equivalent. They were, accordingly, reannexed to the Crown: and 150,000l. bought back to the nation, that juſtice and freedom, which had paſſed away from it.

But this wiſe and humane political meaſure, great as the dangers which threatened the ſtate from the heritable juriſdictions were, would not, perhaps, have been adopted, or even thought of, had not the adminiſtration of the Britiſh affairs been veſted, at that period, in men who entertained a juſt reverence for the rights of mankind. The Prince that filled the throne had been taught, from his earlieſt years, to deteſt political tyranny, and the noble families who had diſtinguiſhed their attachment to the principles of the Revolution, and to the Hanoverian Succeſſion, and by whoſe means the Britiſh nation preſerved, or regained their freedom, enjoyed his confidence and his favour. In ſuch auſpicious circumſtances, the oppoſition that was made to the

the reſumption of the heritable juriſdictions, yielded to the recollection of recent danger, and to the genuine voice of patriotiſm, and a love of freedom. Had no rebellion taken place in Scotland, and our political conſtitution advanced another ſtage in that progreſs towards abſolute monarchy, which a great philoſopher, though not a great friend to freedom, has both predicted and declared to be its eaſieſt death: in this caſe, it is not probable that the people of Scotland would have been admitted to a participation of thoſe privileges which, fortunately for the Britiſh empire, they now enjoy. They would have been inſtruments in the hands of haughty and tyrannical Chiefs, as thoſe again, *might* have been, in thoſe of an artful and unprincipled Miniſter.

During the interval between the Union and the commencement of the war that was terminated by the peace of Paris, in 1763, Scotland remained in a ſtate of inactivity and langour: and, as an emphatic proof that this was really the caſe, it is remarked, that there is ſcarcely one good houſe to be found in that country, which was not built either before the firſt, or ſince the laſt of theſe events. The abolition of heritable juriſdictions, the riſing ſpirit of liberty, that general energy which was the natural reſult of a ſucceſsful and glorious war, in which the Scots, and particularly the Highlanders, had their full ſhare, produced in that country as rapid a change, in the ſpace of even ten years, as is to be found

found in the hiſtory of any nation. A ſpirit of adventure and exertion manifeſted itſelf, not only in arms, but in arts of every kind, both mechanical and liberal. The extreme ardour of literature and ſcience which takes place in Scotland, has been noticed, and very happily expreſſed by the learned and eloquent Editor of Bellendenus, a native of that country: *Scotia jam omnis in philoſophia excolenda fervet, ut ita dicam, ac tumultuatur.*

Let us now deſcend from Stirling, a fit centre for taking a ſurvey of Scotland, and purſue our journey to Carron, by Bannockburn, where that grand and deciſive battle was fought which compleated, in 1314, the recovery of Scotland from the arms of England.

Edward the Second, purſuing the ambitious deſign of his immediate predeceſſor on the Engliſh throne, aſſembled forces from all quarters, with a view of effecting, at one blow, the reduction of Scotland. "He ſummoned," ſays Hume, "the moſt warlike of his vaſſals from Gaſcony: he "inliſted troops from Flanders and other foreign coun- "tries: he invited over great numbers of the diſorderly "Iriſh as to a certain prey: he joined to them a body of "the Welſh, who were actuated by like motives: and aſ- "ſembling the whole military force of England, he march- "ed to the frontiers with an army, which, according to "the Scotch writers, amounted to an hundred thouſand "men,

" men, but which was probably much inferior to that " number.

" The army, collected by Robert, exceeded not thirty " thouſand combatants; but being compoſed of men, who " had diſtinguiſhed themſelves by many acts of valour, " who were rendered deſperate by their ſituation, and who " were enured to all the varieties of fortune, they might " juſtly, under ſuch a leader, be deemed formidable to the " moſt numerous and beſt appointed armies. The Caſtle " of Stirling, which, with Berwic, was the only fortreſs in " Scotland, that remained in the hands of the Engliſh, had " long been beſieged by Edward Bruce: Philip de Mow- " bray, the Governor, after an obſtinate defence, was at laſt " obliged to capitulate, and to promiſe, that, if, before a " certain day, which was now approaching, he was not re- " lieved, he ſhould open his gates to the enemy. Robert, " therefore, ſenſible that here was the ground on which " he muſt expect the Engliſh, choſe the field of battle with " all the ſkill and prudence imaginable, and made the ne- " ceſſary preparations for their reception. He poſted him- " ſelf at Bannockburn, about two miles from Stirling; " where he had a hill on his right flank, and a moraſs on " his left: and, not content with having taken theſe pre- " cautions to prevent his being ſurrounded by the more " numerous army of the Engliſh; he foreſaw the ſuperior

" ſtrength

" ſtrength of the enemy in cavalry, and made proviſion
" againſt it.

" Having a rivulet in front, he commanded deep pits to
" be dug along its banks, and ſharp ſtakes to be planted in
" them; and he ordered the whole to be carefully covered
" over with turf. The Engliſh arrived in ſight on the
" evening, and a bloody conflict immediately enſued be-
" tween two bodies of cavalry; where Robert, who was at
" the head of the Scots, engaged in ſingle combat with
" Henry de Bohun, a gentleman of the family of Hereford;
" and at one ſtroke cleft his adverſary to the chin with a
" battle-axe, in ſight of the two armies. The Engliſh
" horſe fled with precipitation to their main body.

" The Scots, encouraged by this favourable event, and
" glorying in the valour of their Prince, prognoſticated a
" happy iſſue to the combat on the enſuing day: the Eng-
" liſh, confident in their numbers, and elated with paſt ſuc-
" ceſſes, longed for an opportunity of revenge: and the
" night, though extremely ſhort in that ſeaſon and in that
" climate, appeared tedious to the impatience of the ſeveral
" combatants.

" Early in the morning, Edward drew out his army, and
" advanced towards the Scots. The Earl of Gloceſter, his
" nephew, who commanded the left wing of the cavalry,

" impelled by the ardour of youth, ruſhed on to attack
" without precaution, and fell among the covered pits,
" which had been prepared by Bruce for the reception of
" the enemy. This body of horſe was diſordered: Glo-
" ceſter himſelf was overthrown and ſlain: Sir James
" Douglas, who commanded the Scottiſh cavalry, gave the
" enemy no leiſure to rally, but puſhed them off the field
" with conſiderable loſs, and purſued them in ſight of their
" whole line of infantry. While the Engliſh army were
" alarmed with this unfortunate beginning of the action,
" which commonly proves deciſive, they obſerved an army
" on the heights towards the left, which ſeemed to be
" marching leiſurely in order to ſurround them; and they
" were diſtracted by their multiplied fears. This was a
" number of waggoners and ſumpter boys, whom Robert
" had collected; and having ſupplied them with military
" ſtandards, gave them the appearance at a diſtance of a
" formidable body.

" The ſtratagem took effect: a panic ſeized the Engliſh:
" they threw down their arms and fled: they were pur-
" ſued with great ſlaughter, for the ſpace of eighty miles,
" till they reached Berwic: and the Scots, beſides an ineſ-
" timable booty, took many perſons of quality priſoners,
" and above 400 gentlemen, whom Robert treated with
" great humanity, and whoſe ranſom was a new acceſſion
" of wealth to the victorious army. The King himſelf

" narrowly

" narrowly eſcaped by taking ſhelter in Dunbar, whoſe " gates weae opened to him by the Earl of March; and he " thence paſſed by ſea to Berwic."

A ſilver coin of Robert Bruce, value half a mark, was given by a gentleman in Argyleſhire, to Mr. G. Dempſter, and loſt by him at Pool-Ewe, in Roſsſhire, with this inſcription, " *Robertus Dei Gratia Rex Scotorum, Princeps Pictorum.*" This fact, which is authenticated by Mr. Dempſter, and Doctor Thorkelyn, Profeſſor of Hiſtory and Civil Law in the Univerſity of Copenhagen, is curious on two accounts. Firſt, it ſhews that the Pictiſh origin of the people on the eaſtern ſide of the country, in thoſe times, was ſtill remembered. And ſecondly, it is an inſtance, among many others, of the Scottiſh imitating the Engliſh, as the Engliſh, in many things, imitated the French. Edward the Second of England, cotemporary with the Great Robert of Scotland, was called the Prince of Wales, a country ſubdued by the Engliſh. Robert, it ſeems, aſſumed the title of Prince of the Picts, a people that had fallen under the dominion of the Scots.

Thurſday, July 28. We arrived at Carron, where the Carron Company have a very large foundery for caſting all ſorts of implements, from forty-two pounders to the moſt trifling article for domeſtic uſe. The coal, of which they uſe 100 tons per diem, is all charred before it can be

applied to the purpoſe of melting iron, as it creates a much ſtronger heat in that ſtate than when the ſulphur is in it. The bellows made uſe of are amazingly large, and worked by water. Four cylinders of three feet diameter are wrought by one wheel, and the united wind created by this force, paſſes through a tube of about a foot diameter, which is conveyed to the mouth of the furnace. The tube is there reduced to the ſize of an inch and an half. It is natural to ſuppoſe, that ſuch a quantity of air, ſo much compreſſed, muſt act with great violence: which indeed it does, and makes more noiſe than the roaring of the moſt violent gale of wind I ever heard. Without this very forcible engine, they could not obtain heat enough to convert the iron into a liquid maſs. They have here four of thoſe blaſts. They have alſo the largeſt pump, for raiſing water in dry weather, when they are not ſufficiently ſupplied otherwiſe, that I ever ſaw. It is worked by four piſtons, each of which is thirty inches diameter, and raiſes four tons of water at each ſtroke, which makes about 100 tons of water in a minute. This pump is worked by ſteam.

They have adopted here a new method of boring guns, which is done by a horizontal, inſtead of a perpendicular motion, and by moving the gun inſtead of the inſtrument: but they would not let us examine it narrowly. During the war, 1200 people were employed here: but, ſince the peace, until lately, they have had but little buſineſs. I am happy

happy to find they have now ſome large orders from Ruſſia and Germany for great guns, and have occaſion to employ 1000 men. To a perſon who has not been accuſtomed to ſights of this ſort, the place would appear like Pandemonium; for liquid iron is running into the moulds of ſand in all directions; and the men, who look like devils, are driving it about in iron wheel-barrows, through every part of the foundery. At night the whole place appears in a blaze, and by the aſſiſtance of a large piece of water, which makes a fine reflection, forms an exhibition that amply rewards the pains of going to ſee it.

Near Carron the navigable canal from Glaſgow communicates with the ſea. In the idea of extenſive canals, there is ſomewhat ſublime, as well as uſeful. Though all the luxuries, as well as neceſſaries of life could be procured by magical volition, a ſtrong curioſity would impel the cultivated mind to circumnavigate the globe, and to explore new countries, and new ſocieties of men. Whatever, therefore, removes the barriers of diſtance, and facilitates univerſal intercourſe among nations and men, elevates and ſoothes the human mind, which delights to wander through ſpace, as well as eternity. Great ſpirits are uſually friends to roads, bridges, and canals, and whatever can approximate mankind. The canals executed, or intended by ALEXANDER the Great are well known. It is not, perhaps, known ſo generally, that the Emperor CHARLEMAGNE formed a de-

ſign

ſign of uniting, by means of a canal, the Rhine and the Danube. The Altmuhl, a river which riſes in the country of Anſpach, runs through the country of Eichſtadt into the Danube. Another river, the Red-Nitz in Franconia, on which Bamberg lies, flows into the Maine. By the union, therefore, of theſe two rivers, he was in hopes of accompliſhing his plan. In the year 793, this neceſſary canal was actually made, and the Emperor went upon it himſelf from Ratiſbon to Wurtzburg: but as the work was not conducted with ſufficient ſkill and foreſight, the whole of it was rendered abortive: which is the more to be regretted, that not only the two rivers above-mentioned would have been united, but alſo the Black Sea with the Northern Ocean.

The Royal Canal of Languedoc, the work of Louis the Great, extending from Thouloufe to the Mediterranean Sea, is forty-four ſea leagues, or 2855 toiſes, the toiſe being ſix feet. The leaſt breadth of the canal is ten toiſes, or ſixty feet, at the ſurface of the water, and five toiſes, or thirty feet, at the bottom; excepting the part near to the Bridge of Ceſſe, where the canal is carried on in almoſt a ſtraight line for 2000 toiſes, all cut through a rock, which occaſioned ſo great an expence, that in this ſtretch of the canal, they found themſelves obliged to reſtrict the breadth of the upper ſurface of the water to five toiſes, and to narrow the bottom in proportion.

The

The leaſt depth of water in the canal is ſix feet; and it paſſes upon fifty aqueducts, riſing and falling 103 toiſes, 618 feet, above the level of the Mediterranean Sea, and about 31 toiſes, 186 feet, above that of the River Garonne; by means of ſixty-two locks, or ſluices: forty-five of which are betwixt the point of Naurouſe and the Mediterranean Sea; and the remaining ſeventeen between the Point of Naurouſe and the River Garonne, into which the canal is diſcharged.

In order to have a proper ſupply of water for this canal, a great reſervoir has been formed at St. Feriol, into which are conducted the waters of five little rivers, from the neighbouring mountains, by a canal made for that purpoſe, moſtly cut out of the rock; in length 9519 toiſes, in breadth eighteen feet at the ſurface, ten feet wide at the bottom, and eighteen feet deep. This immenſe magazine of water is formed in a valley betwixt two mountains, and is ſaid, in one part, to be above 100 feet deep. The water is let out from the reſervoir by three braſs cocks, of one foot diameter each. Theſe are placed near the bottom of the wall which ſupports the water at near 100 feet below the ſurface of the water in the reſervoir, to which you have an entrance by a vault built in the wall of the reſervoir. The water is conducted by that vault towards another canal, which runs from thence to the point of Naurouſe already mentioned: the length of which other canal is 22,867 toiſes;

toiſes; the breadth at the baſe or bottom is two toiſes, and the depth nine feet.

Of this great reſervoir an accurate ſurvey was made in 1742, by the chief engineer for the Province of Languedoc: when it was found, that its length, at the wall which ſupports the water, was 560 toiſes; its middle breadth, when the reſervoir is full, 340 toiſes; and its greateſt ſurface, when the reſervoir is full, 170,000 ſquare toiſes. The middle depth, the reſervoir being full, was found to be thirty-three feet three inches; and the reſervoir, when full, to contain 942,070 cubical toiſes of water.

One of the moſt remarkable curioſities upon this magnificent canal is the aqueduct bridge of Ceſſe. It is built upon three arches, acroſs a deep hollow ground, of conſiderable breadth, in the bottom of which runs the River Ceſſe. One of the arches upon the ſide next the Mediterranean, does more than contain the whole river, when of its ordinary ſize. The middle arch is calculated to give vent to the water, when the river is in flood: and under the third arch, upon the ſide next Thouloufe, runs the King's high way for carriages of all kinds. The length of the bridge of Ceſſe is eighty-three toiſes three inches. The body of the water which paſſes along this bridge, is from ſeven to eight feet deep, and in width about fifty feet. It is to be obſerved,

that

that in theſe meaſurements we all along reckon by the French foot, which contains thirteen inches.

At the mountain of Malpas the canal is carried for eighty-five toiſes, through the body of the mountain, the greateſt height of which, above the level of the canal, is thirteen toiſes. The height of the vault, where it is greateſt, is five toiſes from the bottom of the canal: and the width of it four toiſes and two feet.

The width of the canal from the Forth to the Clyde is fifty feet, and its extreme length, from the mouth of the Carron to Dalmure Burnfoot on the Clyde, ſix miles below Glaſgow, thirty-five miles, by means of twenty locks on the eaſt ſide of the country, and nineteen on the Weſt, for the tide does not ebb ſo low in the Clyde as in the Forth by nine feet, it riſes and falls 160 feet. The canal, being from eight to nine feet deep, is capable of carrying veſſels, that do not exceed nineteen feet beam, and ſeventy-three feet in length, drawing eight feet water. It is carried through eighteen draw-bridges, and over fifteen aqueducts of note, beſides ſmall bridges and funnels. At Kirkintulloch it paſſes over the water of Logie, on an aqueduct arch of ninety feet in breadth. This arch was thrown over in three ſtretches, having only a centre of thirty feet, which was ſhifted on ſmall rollers from one ſtretch to another; a thing new, and never attempted before with an arch of this ſize. Yet the

joinings are as fairly equal as any other part, and admired as a very fine piece of maſonry. The aqueduct bridge over the Kilven conſiſts of four arches, and carries the canal over a valley ſixty-five feet high, and 420 in length.

To ſupply the canal with water, there is one reſervoir of fifty acres, twenty-four feet deep, and another of ſeventy acres, twenty-two feet deep, which receives many rivulets and ſprings, and which, it is thought, will afford a ſufficient ſupply of water in all ſeaſons. The Carron canal is the greateſt work of the kind in Britain.

In reſpect of extent, expence, and perhaps of art, too, the French is ſuperior to the Britiſh canal. Yet are there circumſtances attending the canal between the Forth and the Clyde, which raiſe it in the eſtimation of men to an equality with the canal of Languedoc; whether we weigh its importance in the ſcales of commercial advantage, or meaſure its magnificence by thoſe aſſociations of ideas which are wont to confer imaginary grandeur. The canal between the Forth and Clyde, affords an advantage to a ſtill more extenſive range of navigation than that which is carried on between the Bay of Biſcay and the Mediterranean: nor is it a more ſplendid undertaking to form a chain of communication between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic, than between the Atlantic and the German Ocean. If the Languedoc canal is of greater extent, and riſes and falls from a higher

higher ſummit, the veſſels that navigate it are ſtopt at Thouloufe; from whence their cargoes are ſent to Bourdeaux, 100 miles down the Garrone, in boats: whereas the Carron canal, throughout the whole of its courſe from ſea to ſea, is capable of carrying veſſels that may go to any part of the world.

The iſthmus between the Forth and the Clyde, is, at the preſent moment, ſtampt with the different characters of two great nations in the zenith of their power and grandeur. The Carron canal beſpeaks the wealth, the art, and the expanded views of the commercial Britons. The vallum of Agricola, extended, like a fortified glen, a little to the ſouthward, and nearly parallel with the canal, makes, even now, a deeper impreſſion on ſenſe, and marks with a bolder hand the genius of the conquering Romans. The walls of Agricola and of Adrian, proofs at once of the power of the Romans, and the courage of the Caledonians, remind the claſſical ſpectator of the grandeur of the Romans, undoubtedly the greateſt nation with which, by tradition, hiſtory, or obſervation, we are at all acquainted. Modern Politicians and Princes act, for the moſt part, by ſubterfuge and intrigue, varying their deſigns and expedients according to times and circumſtances, and therefore ſeldom producing a great effect. The Romans, aiming at the conqueſt of the world, extenſive in their views, and ſteady in their conduct; like the laws of nature, acted inceſſantly in all circumſtances and ſeaſons. So tranſcendantly great were the Roman

works, that when the hiſtorical accounts of them were loſt in the dark ages, an opinion prevailed that they were executed by ſupernatural and inviſible agents.

What an acceſſion might not be made to the reſources of human knowledge, and human happineſs, if the Princes of the earth, imitating the Romans, not in their ends, but their means, and laying aſide all ideas of conqueſt and falſe glory, would labour with equal comprehenſion of view, and ſteadineſs of execution, for the welfare of mankind?

About two miles from Carron, on an inclined plain riſing from the river, and near to the place where the Glaſgow and Stirling roads meet in the high way to Edinburgh, ſtands the celebrated village of CAMELON, once a Roman town, as appears from hiſtorical records, and the plaineſt veſtiges of Roman antiquity. Camelon may contain, at this day, from 100 to 150 families. Roman urns are dug up in every garden and field, and ſtones adorned with Roman ſculpture are found in the doors and windows of almoſt every houſe. The *Cicerone* of Camelon is Farmer Stark, who is well acquainted with all that is reported of the place either in writing or by tradition. Were all the ſite of Camelon, the greater part of which is now arable land, carefully trenched over, the ſubterraneous would far exceed any vegetable harveſt. From Camelon the grand conſular road is carried by Stirling, Ardoch, Strageth, Cultmalindy, and acroſs the Tay, where the bed of the river

was

was paved with large flag ſtones, through Strathmore. The chain of Roman camps in this great Strath was firſt diſcovered, as already mentioned, by Lieutenant-General Melvill, in 1754, and afterwards very accurately delineated and deſcribed by Major-General Roy. Captain Shand, from the example, and at the inſtigation of General Melvill, embraced the opportunity which a four years reſidence at Perth, with the command of the Royal Artillery, in North Britain, afforded him, of exploring the Roman geography in Scotland, and comparing the Roman field-works and engineering with what he had ſeen practiſed in the German and American wars. By a narrow inſpection of Strathallan, Stratherne, and Strathmore, he not only traced, after General Melvill, the great conſular road, with the numerous poſts, *præſidia* and *caſtella*, as well as great camps ſituated on or near it, from Camelon to Kerrymuir in Angus, where the VIA ceaſes to be diſcernible: but he, afterwards, diſcovered a very great number of vicinal or croſs roads near the rivers Erne and Tay, and viſited the other Roman poſts as far as the end of the Grampian Hills near Stonehaven, which had been ſuppoſed to have been the remoteſt point of the country to which the Romans, by land, had penetrated. Conceiving this opinion to be inconſiſtent with the warlike character, and mighty exertions of the Romans, he likewiſe, in ſearch of Roman antiquities, explored the Countries of the North-Grampians, and found the great camp at Glen-Mailen on Ythan, perhaps the *ſtatio*

ad

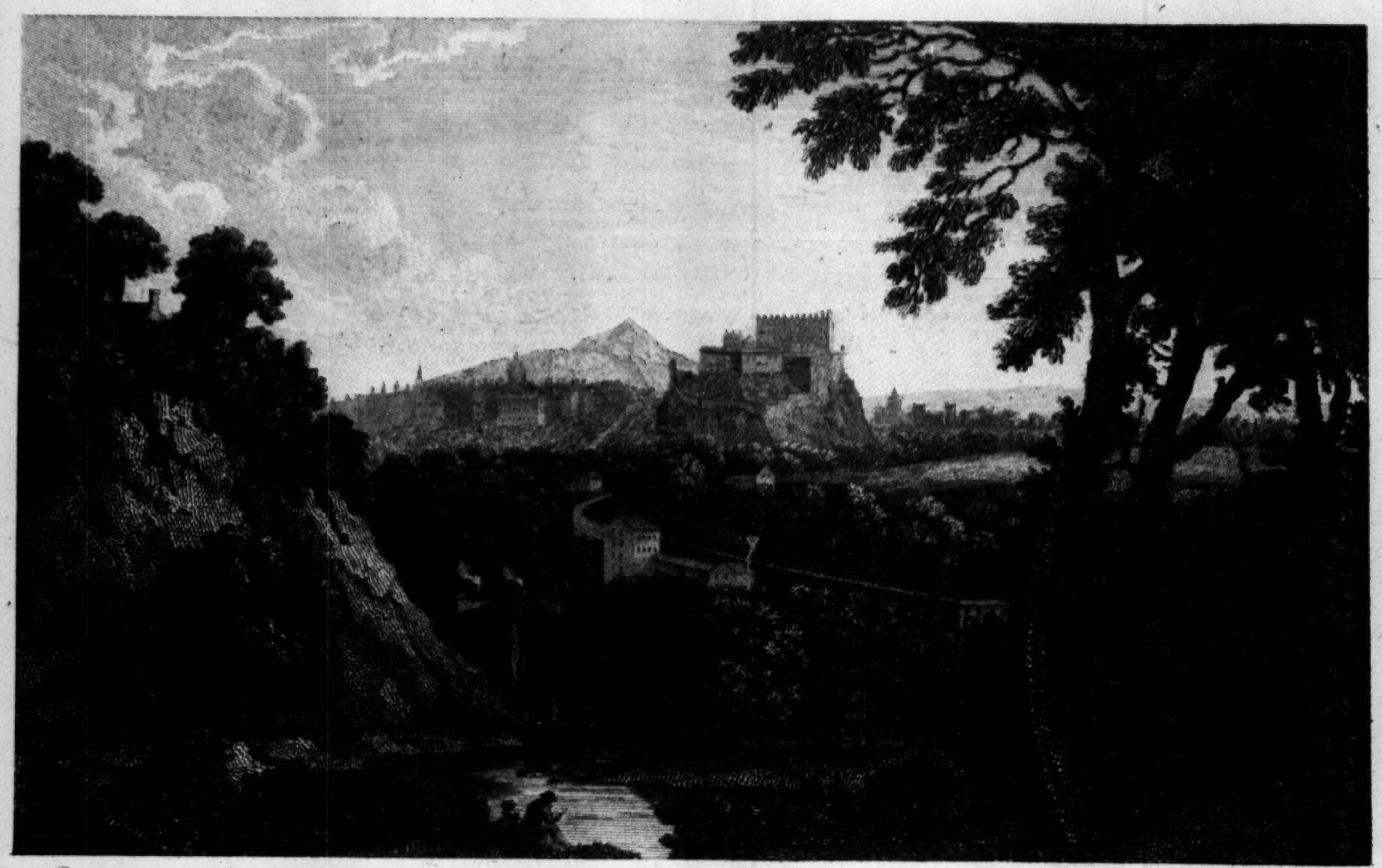
ad Ithunam, the very remarkable preſidium near Old Meldrum, with a number of ſmaller works all ſimilar to thoſe on the other ſide, and having the ſame kind of character; only ſome few of them not executed with ſuch nice accuracy: a circumſtance which may be owing, perhaps, to their being a century or two later than thoſe of Agricola.

A mile and a half above Carron the canal is carried upon a large bridge over the road. On this canal veſſels come from the Clyde to the Forth in twelve hours. By all accounts it is likely to turn out a very gainful undertaking to the proprietors.

Paſſing through Falkirk, near which the Highlanders, in 1745, defeated the royal army, commanded by General Halley, we purſued our journey to Linlithgow, a number of gentlemen's ſeats enlivening the road on either ſide. The land between Stirling and Linlithgow is rich, well cultivated, and planted. We had a fine view of the Carſe of Falkirk, richly covered with all kinds of corn.

Having dined at Linlithgow, we viſited the old palace, which is now a ruin. At the time of the Rebellion in 1745, part of it was habitable, but in 1746 it was entirely deſtroyed by the King's army. This caſtle is famous for having given birth to mary Queen of Scots, and the walls of the room are ſtill remaining in which ſhe was born. The caſtle is ſituated on an eminence, almoſt ſurrounded by a ſmall lake,

and



Nasmyth del.

Heath Sculp.

A PROSPECT of EDINBURGH, from the WEST.

and commands ſeveral beautiful proſpects. Linlithgow is a large town, but the houſes are not well built. From this place to Edinburgh, the country is very well cultivated, eſpecially as you draw near to that city, and the proſpect of the Frith of Forth, and the ſeats and towns to the northward of it that ſkirt the Coaſt of Fife, very beautiful.

In the evening we got to Edinburgh. On our approach to the water of Leith, the rocks and ſhaggy wood that fringe that river, Heriot's Hoſpital, the caſtle, with the houſes and ſpires that ſtretch eaſtward on the ſouthern banks of the North Loch, and Arthur's Seat riſing in the back ground: all theſe objects ſeen at once, and illumined by the rays of the ſetting Sun, preſented an aſſemblage ſcarcely to be exceeded by the imagination of the Painter or Poet. The caſtle, which is the moſt ſtriking object in the antient metropolis of Scotland, is built on a very high rock, which is acceſſible only on one ſide, where there is a drawbridge. Although it was conſidered, before the invention of gun-powder, as impregnable, it is now incapable of any long defence. It appears formidable from its commanding ſituation: but it could not ſtand a regular ſiege even for a week. Upon the very top of the rock there is a large ſquare, conſiſting of buildings partly new and partly antient. In the latter, they ſtill ſhew the room where the unfortunate Mary was delivered of James I. A door too is pointed out to the ſtranger, carefully ſecured by bolts and bars. The room into which this leads is ſaid to contain the

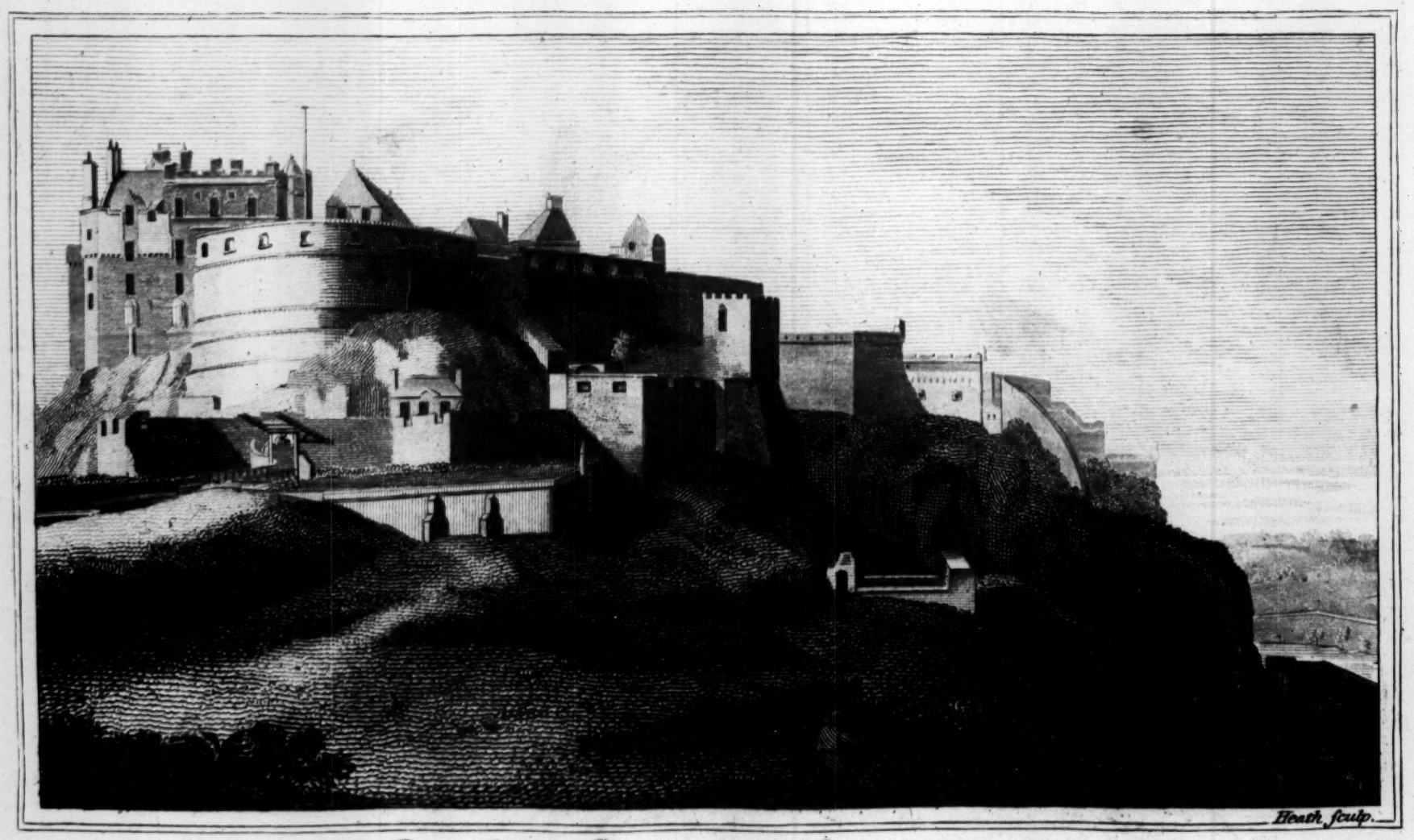
regalia

regalia of Scotland. On this ſubject, however, many are ſceptical, as there is not any tradition of thoſe enſigns of power having ever been ſeen by any perſon ſince the Union.

The new buildings conſiſt of barracks and an armoury, as the Caſtle of Edinburgh is, in reality, *a place d'armes* for military ſtores and accoutrements, to be in readineſs on any emergency. The ſquare ſerves as a parade for the garriſon, which generally conſiſts of five or ſix companies, ſometimes more, beſides a company of invalids. The eſtabliſhment here is as follows: a Governor, a Deputy-Governor, a Fort-Major, a Store-keeper, a Chaplain, a Maſter Gunner, and three or four Quarter Gunners.

On a lower part of the rock towards the north a handſome building is erected. The centre is the Governor's houſe: and the two wings are occupied by the Governor and the Fort-Major. From this rock runs a ſteep ridge, on the eaſt ſide, upwards of a mile long. On this ridge, the old City of Edinburgh ſtands, forming a very wide ſtreet from the caſtle to the bottom of the ridge, where it is terminated by Holyrood-houſe. On each ſide of this ſtreet the declivity is ſo ſteep, that in moſt places you are obliged to deſcend by ſteps. The houſes being built on each ſide of this ridge, accounts for their being ſo very high, from ten to fourteen ſtories. Choice would never have induced any man to build a houſe on this ſpot, or live fourteen ſtories from the ground. The obvious reaſon of

chuſing



North-East Prospect of Edinburgh Castle.

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chuſing ſo incommodious a ſituation, was the neceſſity of being under cover of the guns of the caſtle.

In Scotland, where no marks of regular government, and very few of arts and commerce are to be traced beyond the eleventh century, and where great ferocity of manners prevailed in much later periods, it is probable that towns, and even villages were formed, for the moſt part, by a reſort of the lower claſs of inhabitants to that ſhelter from injury and oppreſſion, which was afforded by the caſtles of the King and of the Barons. The tenants, and retainers of powerful Chiefs, in all times of turbulence and danger, would naturally take refuge under the wings of thoſe ſtrong holds that were the manſions of the Baron to whom they belonged. The principal vaſſals, we may ſuppoſe, of the feudal Chief would, in ſuch times, find entertainment within the walls of the caſtle; while others, of inferior ſtation, would be fain to aſſemble with their families and their ſubſtance, as near to them as poſſible. The domains, or part of the domains of the caſtles would naturally, in ſuch circumſtances, be parcelled out to the people. Temporary huts would be improved into houſes; houſes into villages; and, in the progreſs of population and arts, villages into towns. Our oldeſt boroughs, agreeably to theſe obſervations, are ſituated near places of ſtrength, and the manſions of the great. They who took up their reſidence in ſuch places, found it neceſſary for their farther ſecurity, to ſurround them with

walls or other fences. Hence the towns or villages were termed *burgs*, and their inhabitants, *burgenſes*, long before the practice of incorporating them into communities by charter was introduced, either in this iſland, or on the Continent of Europe.

Burghers were of two ſorts: inhabitants of *burgs* within the domains of Sovereigns, and inhabitants of *burgs* within the territories of powerful Barons and Eccleſiaſtics. Each Burgeſs paid a fixed ſum yearly to the King, or to the Lord Paramount, in whoſe town he lived, or had his *burgagium*. Certain cuſtoms were alſo exacted from the burgeſſes by the ſuperior, whether the king or a ſubject, on the ſale of different commodities. In return for theſe exactions, the Burgeſſes were indulged from time to time with ſundry privileges, which placed them in a very different condition from the inhabitants of the country, or *ruſtici*, whoſe occupations were entirely confined to agriculture or the breed of cattle; and who, chained to the ſoil which they were doomed to cultivate, were not allowed to apply themſelves to any kind of commerce or mechanical employment. And, for the encouragement of the country people to reſort to the towns, it became a law in Scotland and England, as well as in other parts of Europe, that if the predial *ſlave*, or if that ſhould be thought too ſtrong a term, the predial labourer of any Earl or Baron, or other proprietor, ſhould purchaſe a *burgagium* in any burg, even to the extent of only

one

one rood, and remain therein for the ſpace of a year and a day without being challenged by his lord, he ſhould henceforth be free; and enjoy all the rights and immunities of a Burgeſs, provided that he did not belong to the King.

All theſe privileges, however, were found inſufficient to protect even the King's Burgeſſes againſt the tyranny and oppreſſion of the great Lords in their neighbourhood. A new policy was therefore introduced, of forming them into communities by royal charters, granting them a certain domain ſubject to a yearly quit-rent, and appointing officers to be choſen by themſelves, for managing their common affairs, and ſettling their private diſputes. This practice appears to have been introduced firſt in France; and, as it was a very natural expedient in itſelf, in all kingdoms where the feudal ſyſtem was eſtabliſhed, ſo it was quickly diffuſed by a principle of imitation throughout other European countries.

On each ſide of the ridge that forms the baſe of the Scotch metropolis is a very deep valley. The northern one was once filled with water, but it is now drained off, and a bridge of three arches built over the dry land, the centre arch 95 feet high. This forms a communication with the North or New Town, in which is a ſpacious ſquare called St. Andrew's. The ſtreets adjacent are very wide and handſome: many of the houſes are built of free ſtone, and are

truly magnificent. At the north end of this bridge is a very elegant building, which is intended for a regiſter-office, and at the weſt end of the New Town, a ball-room, &c. is erecting, which will, perhaps, ſurpaſs in elegant magnificence, any one in Britain. The houſes on the north ſide of the New Town command a beautiful view of the Firth, with the Coaſt of Fife, and the Town of Leith. On the ſouth ſide of the Caſtle, are ſeveral public buildings. The College, in which are about one thouſand ſtudents, two hoſpitals, which are large and well endowed, a work-houſe, and a houſe for lunatics. In this part of the city is a handſome ſquare, called George's. We were preſent at the laying the firſt ſtone of a new bridge which is to form a communication from the ſouth to the centre part of the city, on a ſtraight line with the bridge which is already built to the north. This is not only highly conducive to convenience, but will have a very handſome appearance. To enumerate the other public buildings which are intended to be erected in Edinburgh, would aſtoniſh any perſon who conſiders that Edinburgh is not a commercial city.

The parliament-houſe in the old city, is about half as large as Weſtminſter-hall; there the Court of Seſſion for Scotland is held, nine of the Lords always attending to do buſineſs. Under the Parliament-houſe is a public library, which contains a great number of antient and modern books. Near the library the public records are kept, among

which

which we were ſhewn the Articles of Union between England and Scotland; and it is ſingular to obſerve, that thoſe Articles are included in twenty pages of folio parchment, each page containing about twenty lines only: when, at this period, twice as much parchment and writing is conſidered as neceſſary to draw up the marriage articles of a Highland Laird, or to convey an acre of land from one man to another.

Holy-rood houſe, which is a large palace, forming a quadrangle, has a number of ſpacious rooms in it, and being ſtill conſidered as a royal houſe, the ſuite of apartments which are intended for the King, are kept as rooms of ſtate, but have no furniture in them. The other apartments are occupied by the Duke of Hamilton, who is keeper, and ſome let to other noblemen. In one of thoſe rooms is a picture of Charles II. and his Queen going to mount their horſes, and a number of little ſpaniels about them. This picture was done by Vandyke, and is inimitable. In the gallery are the portraits of all the Kings of Scotland, many of them well painted: but in the laſt Rebellion ſome ſoldiers who were quartered in the palace, miſchievouſly tore the canvaſs of moſt of them with their bayonets. The chapel, which joins the palace, is a handſome Gothic building, and was roofed in by the preſent Earl of Dundonald's father; but the roof was made ſo heavy, that it fell down, and brought great part of the walls with it: ſince which time

time it has remained in ruins. In this chapel we were ſhewn by a woman, the bones of Darnly, who was a remarkably large man; with thoſe, too, of ſome of the other Kings of Scotland, as ſhe called them. A human carcaſs was alſo laid before us with the fleſh dried on, and remarkably well preſerved. She called this the body of the Counteſs of Roxburgh, who had been buried there for ſeveral hundred years. This exhibition was the moſt indelicate I ever beheld: and it ought not to be ſuffered.

It is partly, perhaps, to the crouded and inconvenient ſituation of old Edinburgh, that Scotland is indebted for the new town, which may juſtly be conſidered as a national ornament. Had the Scottiſh metropolis been ſituated on an eaſy declivity, or a plain, however narrow and irregular its ſtreets, the inhabitants would not have looked about for a new ſpot, but have contented themſelves with making the moſt of the old, and building, without a general and comprehenſive plan, according to accident or to caprice. The ſituation of Edinburgh did not eaſily admit of ſuch improvement and extenſion as might correſpond, in an elegant, luxurious, and enlightened age, to the ideas and the wants of a people who have their eyes open on the progreſſive courſe of ſcience and art, and every invention that can either embelliſh, or add to the pleaſure or comfort of life. Happily the advancement of agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, has enabled the Scottiſh nation to realize and give bodily

bodily conſtitution and ſhape, to thoſe ideas of convenience and elegance which they naturally acquire from their inquiſitive and ſpeculative turn, and alſo from that enterprizing and wandering diſpoſition, which carries them out as adventurers, in ſo many walks of life, not only into England, and all the foreign dependencies of the Britiſh empire, but into every kingdom of note on the face of the earth. The ſpirit of adventure not only tends to introduce into North Britain new ideas or models of refinement; but it is a ſource of wealth, as well as commerce, or rather it is itſelf, conſidered in a natural view, a ſpecies of commerce, and that of a very advantageous kind, and in which the balance of trade is wholly in its favour. A great part of the Scottiſh youth quit their country, from about fifteen to twenty years of age, and paſs through London, but without being naturalized in it, and enervated by its vices, to various countries, in purſuit of fame and fortune. Their hearts by this time are impreſſed with an attachment to their kindred, their acquaintance, the companions of their youth, perhaps to objects of the tendereſt vows; nay, and in ſome degree, to the very mountains, lakes, rivers, rocks and woods, that give a ſpecies of animation to a romantic country, and even to wild waſtes which endear their native village, by excluding ſtrangers, and marking it as their own. Scotchmen, but particularly the Highlanders, are well known to be ſubject to that *maladie du pais*, that longing deſire of reviſiting their native country, which characterizes ſtill more ſtrongly the

natives

natives of Switzerland. Soldiers, ſailors, merchants, phyſicians, and others, in whoſe imaginations, Scotland has been uniformly uppermoſt amidſt all their peregrinations and all the viciſſitudes of life, returning home with the earnings of induſtry and the favours of fortune, add to the general wealth of the nation. Scotland, though barren of many things, is yet *ferax virorum:* and men undoubtedly are the moſt important articles in any country.

Nor is the ſpirit of adventure and emigration confined to the yonger ſons of good families: it is general throughout all ranks and orders of ſociety. This ſpirit of adventure is connected with another ſpirit not leſs general in Scotland: a ſpirit of literature and religion, which appear, at leaſt, in the great maſs of the people, to influence and ſupport each other. In this country, the middling and lower ranks of the people are conſtant and devout in their attendance on religious duties: worſhip God in their families once, and often twice every day; and, what will appear extraordinary, many, nay moſt of them are alert diſputants in the abſtracted and metaphyſical doctrines of religion, which their chief care is to teach to their children: and this religious turn is by far the moſt ſtriking feature in the character of the Scottiſh nation.

Learning had been planted in Great Britain by apoſtolical miſſionaries, and Roman colonies and legions, for ſeveral centuries

centuries before the Roman empire yielded to inundations of barbarians; and, retiring before the rude Saxons into Wales, Scotland, and the adjacent iſlands, maintained, even in ſuch ſequeſtered corners as Icolmkil, her ſacred fire along with political independence, during the darkneſs of the middle ages. As far as written memorials carry back our views, we find a lettered education very general in Scotland. In every pariſh, the clerk, who was alſo precentor and ſchool-maſter, was inſtructed not only in arithmetic and the elements of geometry and menſuration, but in the Latin, and ſometimes the Greek tongue; nay, and in ſome inſtances, in that logic and caſuiſtry which maintained their ground in the univerſities, and gave the *faſhion* or *tone* to the polite circles of Europe for ages. It is ſufficient to allude to the hiſtory of Abelard and the famous Crichton, to prove that there was a time when it was accounted as gentleman-like an accompliſhment to be a ſubtle reaſoner, as it is at preſent to excell in every thing that is connected with elegance or military glory. A tincture, at leaſt, of erudition was often poſſeſſed even by ruſtics and mechanics, in rude and turbulent periods; and it muſt have been a very ſingular ſpectacle to a native of Conſtantinople or Rome, to behold a race of learned and religious barbarians.

The ſons of mechanics and ſmall farmers, after ſpending the Summer and Autumn in various rural occupations, go to the pariſh ſchool in Winter, to learn writing, arithmetic,

and ſometimes the Latin language: for, as to Engliſh, the boys and girls of the poorer ſort of people in Scotland, are taught, for the moſt part, to read in the Bible even before they ſet their foot in a ſchool. And a more delightful picture cannot be conceived by human imagination, than that of a young woman, in all the bloom of health and of virtue, ſpinning flax with her little wheel, with a child leaning on her knee, with his catechiſm, or ſome collection or portion of the ſcriptures laid on her lap: while the child reads, the work is not interrupted; for the pious mother knows what he reads, by heart. It will doubtleſs appear very ſtrange, and ſcarcely credible to other nations, that the Scottiſh children, of all ranks, from the time that they are five or ſix years of age, are initiated in the ſublimeſt of moral enquiries, namely, that *de Finibus bonorum et malorum*; or "What is the chief end of man."

The religious education of the Scots naturally leads them to peruſe not only books connected with the Chriſtian doctrines, but books on all ſubjects. And, if we may be allowed to compare great things to ſmall, in the ſame manner that human literature was indebted in a very high degree for its preſervation, during the reign of barbariſm, and its revival in the fifteenth and ſixteenth centuries, to the enquiries and diſputes of religioniſts; ſo the religious habits of the Scots carry them forward to general reflection and inveſtigation. The free and equal government of the Saxons, and a more

genial

genial climate and foil, naturally turned the bent of the Engliſh nation to various purſuits of induſtry, and intereſted them in thoſe public councils, in which they enjoyed a participation. In Scotland, the natural rigour of the climate and ſoil, the want of commerce and of political importance, and that ſtate of vaſſalage and ſlavery, in which the great body of the people were held by their Chieftains, preſented not to the activity of their mind any grand object of hope or of exertion in this world, at leaſt, within the precincts of this iſland: for until the Acceſſion, they were the natural enemies, and, before the Union, the rivals of England. They therefore looked around them to foreign nations, or forward to a country and ſtate of exiſtence to come. But the force of their minds was chiefly directed to the objects of religion, which conſoled them under their *poverty* and civil ſlavery, by holding up to their views the moſt tranſporting hopes beyond death and the grave, and raiſing them to a fellowſhip and communion with the King of Kings, in whoſe ſight all mortals were equal. This expanded ſentiment of citizenſhip and ſociety with ſuperior beings, this religious enthuſiaſm, the moſt powerful engine among mortals, whenever it was powerfully excited, formed a counterbalance, and ſubverted in Scotland all the powers of Government; and at all times, even the moſt tranquil, gave a firmneſs and dignity of conduct to the ſincere profeſſor of religious principles, which to the feudal tyrant was an object of jealouſy and hatred. There are abundance of well-

authenticated inſtances of *Lairds*, a claſs of men who form a kind of ſecondary ariſtocracy, expreſſing great antipathy to certain individuals who were their tenants, and even depriving them of their poſſeſſions, for no other reaſon than that they were tenacious and zealous abettors of religious doctrines. The haughty Chief conſidered religious zeal as a kind of diſloyalty to himſelf. In fact, the grandeur of the Laird was not a little diminiſhed in the eyes of his tenants, when once they became familiar with the Jewiſh prophets, who treated Lords, Princes, and Kings as they deſerved, with great freedom and ſeverity.

But, it is not the preſent object to illuſtrate the political conſequences that flow from the religious turn of the Scots. Theſe indeed are ſufficiently diſplayed in the hiſtory of both Scotland and England. What is not ſo well underſtood, is, that connection which ſubſiſts between the literary and religious genius of the Scottiſh nation, on the one part, and their ſpirit of adventure and emigration on the other. It is on this political ground, the connection that ſubſiſts between expanded views and a ſpirit of adventure, chiefly, that I have ſuggeſted the idea of moving one of the Colleges of Aberdeen to Inverneſs.

Literature, of which religion is the moſt important branch, is not confined in Scotland to the circle of the few: it extends to the many, and enlightens the nation. Now, wherever

wherever we trace the progreſs of knowledge and ſcience, among antient or modern nations, we behold their powerful and beneficial tendency to elevate as well as enlighten the mind, to dilate the conceptions of men, to multiply their projects, and extend the ſcene of their action. The Scots, in every profeſſion, from books, from converſation, from the example of their relations and acquaintance, acquire a ſpirit of enterprize, and launch forth as needy adventurers. If they are fortunate, they return with their wealth to their native country, where they ſettle, and raiſe and perpetuate new races of travellers. This ſpirit of wandering will, however, abate of courſe, in proportion to the improvement of their own country, which, at preſent, appears to be in a ſtate of rapid progreſſion. It is obſerved that arts of every kind make quicker advances in countries that have been but little cultivated, than in ſuch as have enjoyed the bleſſings of ſkill and induſtry, to a certain degree, for ages. As lime, or marle, or any other manure, operates more quickly, and with greater effect on new, than on old ground, ſo new inventions and inſtitutions find eaſier admittance, as well as a freeer and more rapid courſe, in countries not pre-occupied by habits and cuſtoms, than in ſuch as are poſſeſſed with a conceit, that they have already reached the higheſt pitch of improvement. The former are docile and active: the latter prone to ſelf-conceit, and to tread in beaten paths. For this reaſon, various improvements are introduced with eaſe and with ſucceſs

into

into Ruſſia, which are rejected by the Italians, the Portugueze, and the Spaniards.

There is an evident, and a very important diſtinction, between nations in a ſtate of advancement, and nations in a ſtate of declination: thoſe whom the ardour of novelty and imitation carries forward to improvement of every kind; and thoſe who, in familiar language, conſider themſelves as having had their day, who feel a degree of melancholy dejection and languor; who, inſtead of looking forward to a career in arts and arms, have a conſtant retroſpect to ſome former period in their hiſtory, and conſole themſelves by contemplating the talents, the proweſs, the ſplendour, and the fame of their anceſtors. But the ſituation of Scotland appears to be, in reſpect to this diſtinction, ſomewhat anomalous. For, though there be not in Europe a nation of higher, perhaps not of ſuch high antiquity as Scotland, that is, a nation more early, or ſo early known, that has preſerved to the preſent day its antient and original independence; nor yet any ſtate or kingdom, now independent, that was ſooner viſited by literature and religion; yet it is certain, that in agriculture, commerce, and mechanical arts, the Scots, until late years, were greatly behind their ſouthern neighbours. Scotland then, in the career of improvement, has ſtarted, in the preſent auſpicious æra, with peculiar advantage. She looks backward with pride, yet forward with alacrity;

alacrity; and, with enlarged views, ſtudies to make the moſt of her natural produce, and local ſituation.

The face of Scotland, interſected with navigable rivers, lakes, and arms of the ſea, and variegated with mountains, moorlands, and fertile vallies and plains: the face of Scotland, which yields nothing to ſloth, but refuſes not any boon to the hand of induſtry, and thus provides for the health and happineſs of her ſons, inſpired the ſagacious mind of Aaron Hill, half a century ago, with a preſage, that this *unripened beauty* would have her day, and even excell her ſiſter England, whom he compared to a gay coquette. Certain it is, that the great manufactures of England have migrated from the eaſtern and the ſouthern, to the weſtern and the northern coaſts of the Kingdom. The woollen manufacture was at firſt carried on in Kent, Suſſex, and Eſſex. It paſſed into Devonſhire, where it ſtill flouriſhes; and has travelled from thence northward into Yorkſhire. Lancaſhire and Warwickſhire have, in like manner, become the ſeats of manufactures in iron and ſteel, which were at firſt carried on in and near the metropolis, whither they were imported from Flanders. Cheapneſs of labour, proviſions, and fuel, regularity of manners, induſtry, exemption from heavy taxes: theſe were the circumſtances which effected thoſe viciſſitudes; and the ſame cauſes will continue to produce the ſame effects.

Human

Human induſtry levels all the inequalities of nature, and even converts apparent difficulties and impoſſibilities into the means of anſwering ſome uſeful or elegant purpoſe. On the boſom of the ocean, which ſeems deſtined to keep the nations aſunder from each other, the buſy merchant wafts home to the ſhores of the ſterile north, the produce of more bountiful climates, which the hardineſs and activity natural to cold regions convert into articles of convenience and luxurious accommodation. The world begins now to look for the produce of the mulberry and the cotton tree, to the land of thiſtles and ſloes: and to the fierce Caledonians, for ſuch works of fancy and taſte, as were formerly expected only from Italy and Greece.—But it is time to return from this digreſſion, to which we have been led by a proſpect of the New Town of Edinburgh, a pleaſing proof at once, of opulence and elegant taſte.

The North Loch, formerly a part of that lake which antiently ſurrounded Edinburgh on every ſide, excepting a narrow neck of land on the eaſt, and afterwards an offenſive marſh, drained, adorned with ſhrubbery, and ſubjected to a magnificent bridge, forms a ſtriking boundary between the Old and the New Town, and adds to the beauty of both. Beſides the communication that is opened acroſs the marſh between the towns, by that magnificent ſtructure, a terrace, which is every day enlarged, has lately been extended between them from the Lawn-Market, near the Caſtle-Hill.

This

This terrace is formed by the rubbage of old houſes, and the earth which is dug up in laying the foundations of new ones. That the earth and rubbage ſhould be diſpoſed of in this manner, was the contrivance of a very judicious and cool-headed citizen, who has borne all the honours of magiſtracy, and is called, in honour of his name, *Provoſt Grieve's Brigg*. This, though one of the moſt ſimple, is at the ſame time, one of the moſt laſting monuments of his judgment, and concern for the public, that could be deviſed by human invention. Statutes, pillars, mauſoleums, temples, palaces: all theſe ſoon moulder away through time, if they are ſpared by the antipathy of barbarian invaſion. But the ſtructure charged with the memory of the worthy Provoſt, ſafely low, can never fall. Renovated and augmented, like the vegetables that adorn the face of nature, by what appears offenſive and redundant, it will flouriſh throughout ages and ages, and freſh flowers will ſpring in honour of its founder. When the proud arch, thrown over the marſh, in another part, ſhall be again levelled with the ground, as it once has been, the paſſenger ſhall paſs ſecure on Provoſt Grieve's *Brigg*, which is not to be overturned but by ſome earthquake or inundation, or other convulſion of nature.

It would be premature, did it come within the compaſs of our plan, if there can be ſaid to be any plan in a collection of memorandums taken merely as they occurred, to enter into a minute deſcription of a naſcent town. Let it ſuffice,

therefore, to ſay, that New Edinburgh is built, or a building, on an elevated plain, extending for many miles from eaſt to weſt, with a gentle declivity on the ſouth, where the proſpect is terminated by the town and caſtle of the old city, and an adjacent hill riſing almoſt perpendicularly to a great height; and on the north, and north-weſt, by the Firth of Forth, Fife, and the Grampians over-topping intervening hills, and raiſing their blue ſummits to the ſkies. The objects ſeen from hence are not only fitted to pleaſe and ſoothe the imagination, by their natural ſublimity and beauty, but ſuch as aſſociate in the mind of a Scotchman, the moſt important paſſages in the hiſtory of his country, and are, on that account, doubly intereſting.

For, without entering into the queſtion ſtarted by the learned and ingenious profeſſor Reid, (the father in this country of that philoſophy, which is injuriouſly aſcribed by many to Dr. Beattie of Aberdeen) whether it be not ſomething moral that is at bottom of that pleaſure which we take in contemplating the grandeur and beauty of natural objects, certain it is, that where we are intereſted in any ſcene by moral aſſociations, its beauties are perceived and reliſhed with double ſenſibility and ardour. A traveller might behold from one of the Cordilleras, or Andes, in South America, a ſpectacle ſtill more extenſive and majeſtic, than what is to be enjoyed from any of the mountains of Savoy. But how different the effects of theſe ſublime proſpects, on the mind of the

cultivated

cultivated European! Italy and the Mediterranean Sea, are out-done in extent and natural magnificence by Chili and the Pacific Ocean; nor is the Po, with the Plain of Lombardy, to be compared with the Rio de la Plata, or the River of the Amazons, and the regions that are extended on their ſhores: but they excite not thoſe ideas and correſpondent emotions that are ſuggeſted to the mind by the hiſtory of the Egyptians, the Phœnecians, the Carthaginians, the Greeks, and the Romans. But from this ſubject, in this place, I am admoniſhed to deſiſt, by a treatiſe compoſed with equal acuteneſs, comprehenſion, and judgment by a citizen of Edinburgh, who has ſhewn the connection between taſte, emotion, and the aſſociation of ideas.

At the ſame time that the New Town of Edinburgh emphatically diſplays the proſperity of Scotland, and that proſperity carries us back to the Union, which gave it birth, we muſt acknowledge that this great political meaſure, if it conferred on the people of Scotland the bleſſings of free government, and extended commerce, was yet attended with many diſadvantages. It deprived the Scots of the commercial privileges which were granted to them by foreign nations, particularly by France, and ſubjected them, while their trade was yet ill able to bear it, to the diſcouraging cuſtoms and impoſts which took place in England. It ſtunned and checked the commerce on their eaſtern coaſts. It almoſt diſmantled the beautiful peninſula of Fife, of that chain of

towns that fringed its coaſts. It drew the nobility and principal gentry to London. And ſo languid and melancholy was the ſtate of Scotland, like a tranſplanted vegetable before it ſtrikes its roots into the new ſoil, that within ſix or ſeven years after the Union, a motion was made by the Scotch Peers, in the Houſe of Lords, for its diſſolution. The blood has now returned, with increaſe, to the moſt northerly extremities of the empire; but its influx to the heart left them long pale and trembling.

By the Union, too, the Scotch nation muſt have loſt not a little of their national character, and that ardour which is inſpired by the preſence of the ſovereign, and the excluſive direction of their own affairs. If a nation be ſmall, and inhabit a narrow country, they loſe their independence, and fall under the dominion of ſome powerful neighbour. If they are very numerous, and inhabit a large and extenſive territory, they are diſunited, and loſe ſight of their intereſts and honour, as one community. A few ingroſs the management of public affairs, and with-hold or ſhade from the many, the ſubjects of public zeal and political occupation. The greater part are thrown into a ſtate of languor and obſcurity, and ſuffer themſelves, as is well obſerved by Profeſſor Fergu ſon, to be governed at diſcretion. The Roman people loſt their patriotiſm, when the rights of Romans were extended to the other nations of Italy.

The

The body of the Scotch people, it is true, rather gained political importance by the Union of their nation with England, than loſt it: for, though excluded by the ariſtocratical ſway that prevails in Scotland from parliamentary elections, by the Union they acquired wealth, which is always attended by influence and power in various ſhapes: and, on all public emergencies, and in all great political queſtions, the voice of men of property will always make its way, and have its effect in the aſſemblies of the nation.—But, what would the face of affairs be in Scotland, if the people, as in England, had been made partakers of political power, and the antient race of their Kings have ſtill ſwayed the ſceptre within the precincts of the kingdom? With theſe advantages, with a flouriſhing colony at Darien, and the favour of all the national enemies of England, what progreſs would they not have made in manufactures, arts, navigation, commerce, and all that gives power and ſplendour to nations? Fortunately for England, theſe ſuppoſitions were never realized, and both nations are happily united in one fortune and fate, as in one iſland.

If the New Town of Edinburgh excells the Old in beauty, elegance, and commodious as well as ſalubrious diſpoſition and ſituation, the Old excells the New in variety, boldneſs, and grandeur of aſpect. Both of them bear marks, and may be conſidered as emblematical of the ages in which they received their complexion and form. As the antient

city

city of Edinburgh is boldly terminated by the caſtle, on the weſt ſide, ſo it is ſtill more nobly bounded by *Saliſbury Craggs* and *Arthur's Seat* on the eaſt: the firſt denominated from the Earl of Saliſbury, who, in the reign of Edward III. accompanied that Prince in an expedition againſt the Scots; the laſt from Arthur, the Britiſh Prince, who, in the end of the ſixth century, defeated the Saxons in the neighbourhood of that conſpicuous place.

Arthur's Seat riſes, in a manner, bold and abrupt, till its rocky ſummit reaches an height of 800 feet from the baſe. On the weſt ſide of this hill, and on the other ſide of a ſmall marſhy dell, lie Saliſbury Craggs, which preſent to the city an awful front of broken and baſaltic rocks. Theſe, beſides ores, ſpars, rock plants, and here and there, it is ſaid, ſome precious ſtones, afford an inexhauſtible ſupply of hard ſtones for pavement, and other purpoſes; and it is from this quarry that we have a great part of thoſe which pave the ſtreets of London. The hand of the quarry-man has worn down a part of the Craggs into a ſpacious ſhelf, ſtretching about midway from their ſummit to their baſe.

From this lofty terrace, which, at all times, forms a dry walk, ſheltered from the north-eaſterly and eaſt winds, you look down on Edinburgh, of which, with its environs, and the adjacent country, you have a near and diſtinct proſpect. But from the top of Arthur's Seat the view is more noble

and

and extenſive. The German Ocean, the whole courſe of the Forth, the diſtant Grampians, and a large portion of the moſt populous and beſt cultivated part of Scotland, form a landſcape, ſublime, various, and beautiful. The ſilence, ſolitude, and rugged aſpect of theſe neighbouring hills, with adjacent moraſſes and lakes, form a ſtriking contraſt with the hurry, the din, and the ſnug artificialneſs of the city; while the buſtle, the anxiety, and the conſtraint of a city life, on the other hand, ſet off, and endear the charms of theſe rural haunts, whoſe genius, from the wild heights of nature, looks down with amazement at the vain cares, and with contempt, on the proudeſt edifices of toiling mortals. This romantic ground, this aſſemblage of hills, rocks, precipices, moraſſes, and lakes, was encloſed by James V. and formed into a park, belonging to the palace of Holyrood-houſe, with which it communicates. Both park and palace, with certain portions of ground adjoining to the latter, afford an aſylum for inſolvent debtors, who cannot complain of wanting, in this ſpacious priſon, either air or exerciſe.

From the top of Arthur's Seat, you are entertained with the ſight of a very great number of beautiful villas and gentlemen's ſeats. Of theſe I ſhall only mention Duddingſton, the elegant manſion of the Marquis of Abercorn. Arthur's Seat, on the ſouth, is, in many parts, a perpendicular rock, compoſed of natural columns, regularly pentagonal,

or

or hexagonal, about three feet in diameter, and from forty to fifty feet high. At the bottom of theſe baſaltes is a lake of conſiderable extent, and on the other ſide of this lake ſtands Duddingſton. The walks and ground about the houſe, which is at once a commodious habitation, and a beautiful piece of architecture, are laid out with great judgment. This villa is ſo ſituated as to be concealed from the view of Edinburgh, which, as it is not two miles from that city, ſhews very juſt taſte in the noble proprietor, as well as in the late Mr. Robinſon, architect, who planned, and laid out the grounds about Duddingſton. It would be difficult to find another villa in Europe ſo elegant, and at the ſame time ſo rural and romantic in its ſituation, ſo near a great city. I know not of any great city that touches, like Edinburgh, on ſuch a ſteep, rugged, and lofty hill, as Arthur's Seat, except Prague, the capital of Bohemia. On the north-eaſt ſide of Edinburgh lies the Calton-Hill, upon the top of which there is an obſervatory, half-finiſhed. The garden around this ſtructure was laid out by the late ingenious Mr. Short: and upon poles at proper diſtances, he contrived to exhibit all the primary planets with their ſatellites. This was a curious fancy, and, if it had no other merit, may undoubtedly be conſidered as the largeſt orrery in the world. Around this hill there is a very pleaſant ſerpentine walk, that commands a view of the whole city of Edinburgh; and all the adjacent country, which is well cultivated and enriched with wood. You have alſo, from this eminence, a

view

view of Leith, the whole Firth of Forth out to the ſea, the town of Preſton-Pans, and many other objects.

Leith, which is between one and two miles from Edinburgh, is the ſea-port of that city, and contains about ten thouſand inhabitants. There is a tolerable pier at this place, with about an hundred veſſels belonging to it, of different ſizes, half of which, nearly, is employed in foreign, and the other half in the coaſting trade. The harbour is formed by the conflux of the River Leith with the ſea. The depth of the water, at the mouth of the harbour, is, at neap tides, about nine, but, in high ſpring tides, about ſixteen feet. The town of Leith, ſituated on the very brink of the Forth, is evidently more commodious for trade than that of Edinburgh, the inhabitants of which have fallen on various expedients to deprive their neighbours of thoſe advantages which are held out to them by the hand of nature.

The harbour of Leith was granted to the community of Edinburgh, by a charter from King Robert I. A. D. 1329: but the banks of the river that formed the harbour, belonged to Logan of Reſtalrig, from whom the citizens were under the neceſſity of purchaſing the waſte ground that lay between their houſes and the river, for the purpoſe of wharfs for the conveniency of ſhipping. Neither could they keep ſhops for the ſale of bread, wine, and other articles, nor build magazines for corn, till the liberty of doing

ſo was purchaſed from the ſuperior of the ground. The citizens of Edinburgh, therefore, in order to exclude thoſe of Leith from every branch of commerce, purchaſed from Logan an excluſive privilege of trade in that town; of keeping ware-houſes there, and inns for the reception and entertainment of ſtrangers. The inhabitants of this oppreſſed town were cheered, for a time, with the hopes of relief from royal favour, but theſe proved deluſive; and Leith continues, to this day, to be dependent on Edinburgh.

Whether from a love of popularity, or that natural benignity which ſtirs in the human breaſt towards all who are not objects of rivality and hatred, certain it is that, in every nation, ſovereign princes have uſually ſhewn marks of favour to the villages and towns where they happened to take up their reſidence. Mary of Lorraine, Queen Regent, on the eruption of thoſe outrages that marked the courſe of the Reformation in Scotland, perceived the importance of the town and harbour of Leith, which opened a ready inlet to troops from France, and afforded the means of a retreat, on any deſperate emergency, to that kingdom. In this place ſhe frequently reſided, and ſurrounded it with a wall, ſtrengthened with eight baſtions. After the inhabitants had purchaſed from Reſtalrig the ſuperiority of Leith, which they did at the price of 3000l. Scotch, ſhe erected it into a borough of barony, and promiſed to conſtitute it a royal borough. But, on her death, Francis and Mary, violating

lating the private rights of the people of Leith, ſold the ſuperiority of it to the community of Edinburgh, to whom it has ſince been confirmed by grants from ſucceſſive ſovereigns.

Between Edinburgh and Leith, there is a ſmall botanical garden, well ſtocked with plants of various kinds. It is five acres in extent: the ſoil, in general, light, ſandy, or gravelly. Although it is not quite twenty years ſince it was made, the trees are ſo far advanced, as to afford good ſhelter to the tender plants. For this *ſeminary*, in which botanical lectures are given every day, in the Summer ſeaſon, the world is indebted to about 2000l. granted by the Britiſh Government, and 25l. annually from the City of Edinburgh, for paying the rent of the ground. The City is undoubtedly deeply intereſted in every thing that may tend to attract ſtrangers. They cannot employ the revenue of their community to better purpoſe, than in beautifying the town, and promoting every deſign that may be ſubſervient either to utility, elegance, or advancement in ſcience. It is but juſtice to the Magiſtrates of Edinburgh, to obſerve, that in the promotion of theſe ends they are not backward.

The clear revenue of the City of Edinburgh, or that which remains after making the fixed annual payments, amounts to about 12,000l. ſterling: and, it would have amounted to one-third more, nay, probably, to as much

more, had it not been for the introduction of tea, and the progreſſive flames of that *infernal ſpirit*, whiſky. Moſt of the Royal Boroughs of Scotland, I believe all of them, have obtained from the Legiſlature, for defraying the expences of improvements, and inſtitutions of public utility, a duty of two-pence Scotch, that is, two-thirds of one halfpenny, on the pint of ale and beer, conſumed within their royalty or juriſdiction. This duty was extended by ſtatute in 1723, from the City of Edinburgh over the Cannon-Gate, the pariſh of St. Cuthbert's, (which is to the Scotch metropolis, what Mary-le-bone is to London) and South and North Leith. This duty, in 1690, when levied only in the city, amounted to . . . . . £.4000 0 0

In 1724, . to .	7939	16	1
1736	6101	10	8
1750	4758	18	8
1764	3550	0	0
And in 1776	2197	0	0

Since this period, I have been informed, it has continued to decreaſe, but to what preciſe extent I cannot determine.

The late King of Pruſſia was wont to ſay, " What have we Germans to do with tea? In my younger days I uſed to take a cup of ale, even for breakfaſt, and I never felt myſelf the worſe for it." The magiſtracy of Edinburgh will, no doubt, applaud the practice of his Pruſſian Majeſty, and wiſh that their fellow-citizens had followed his example.

But,

But, the diſuſe of drinking ale in Scotland, which is unfortunately very general, is not ſo much to be lamented, on account of the public revenue of Edinburgh, as of thoſe pernicious conſequences which flow from thoſe of the liquors ſubſtituted in its place.

Without reprobating the uſe of tea, an elegant, ſafe, and pleaſing refreſhment, as well as a ſubject of a very extenſive commerce, and public revenue, there will appear to be too good ground for lamenting the general rejection of ale in North Britain, when we reflect on its *ſuccedaneum*, among the middling and lower ranks, *whiſky*, a ſpecies of drink which is equally pernicious to health and to morals. The diſtilling of ſpirits in Scotland, has of late become a great branch of manufacture. Stills have been multiplied exceedingly, and the Scotch Diſtillers, from the cheapneſs of fuel and labour, and other cauſes, have been able to underſell the London Diſtillers in their own market. It has been thought proper by the Legiſlature, to impoſe ſuch taxes on the *ſpirit trade* of Scotland, as ſhall equalize it with that of the Metropolis. This is certainly a departure from that anti-monopolizing ſpirit, which is the baſis of the Commercial Treaty, the moſt important meaſure that has been taken by the preſent Adminiſtration. If Scotland, or any other province or diviſion of this iſland, poſſeſs peculiar advantages for carrying on any branch of manufacture, why ſhould it not improve, and puſh them to their utmoſt

utmoſt extent? Not to enter into general reaſoning, on a point ſo obvious, and to confine our views to the caſe in queſtion, it may be obſerved, that the flouriſhing ſtate of the diſtilleries in Scotland, promotes agriculture in Norfolk and Yorkſhire, and other counties in England. But is it not to be greatly doubted whether, on an enlarged ſcale of politics, and of morality, which enters deeply into every ſound political ſyſtem, it be wiſdom to ſuffer people in any country to convert into liquid fire, ſo great a proportion of that grain, which affords ſalubrious ſuſtenance to man and to beaſt, and forms the ſtrength of a nation, by nurſing up a race of healthful peaſants?

The excitement that is given to agriculture by diſtilleries, could never be rendered either general or permanent. It is a tranſient and improper ſubject of taxation, and ſource of revenue, which ſtrikes at the very vitals of the people, and inſenſibly deſtroys the roots of population. From the languor of fatigue among the labouring poor, from that of inoccupation, or what is commonly called *ennui* in others, and from that diſappointment and agitation of mind, whether of joy or ſorrow, which is incident to all the ſons of men, there is ſo general a propenſity to intoxication, that all wiſe governments ought to guard againſt the increaſe of ſpirituous liquors, as that *Promethean* fire which is the ſpring of all human calamities. Sound temperance, the parent of regular induſtry, provides with eaſe for all the wants

of

of nature; or bears up, with alacrity, under misfortunes which cannot be avoided. The oblivious draught, which ſteeps the ſenſes in forgetfulneſs for a while, expoſes them afterwards to the keeneſt arrows of adverſity.

But, it is ſaid, that the people will have ſpirituous liquors at all adventures; and, that it is equally advantageous to the revenue and to agriculture, to encourage the making of home, rather than the importation of foreign ſpirits. It is not, however, to be ſuppoſed that the people of Scotland would conſume as great a quantity of foreign ſpirits, as they do of their whiſky, which, from the multiplication of ſtills, becomes every day more and more common. Does the native of France eat as much animal food as an Engliſhman? Or an Engliſhman drink as much wine as a Frenchman? I mean, not the higher, but the middling, and the lower orders of the people. Inſtead of encouraging or not diſcouraging diſtilleries, it would be good policy to raiſe, by all means, the duty on ſpirits and malt, which would fall on the higher ranks and the diſtillers, and lower it on ale and beer, which would afford a very wholeſome and nouriſhing beverage to the poor and the labouring people.

This commutation would contribute greatly to the health and the population of the country, and have an happy influence on the herring fiſheries. The poor Scot has neither porter nor ale. The ale, as he calls it, or two-penny, which he

he was wont to drink before the impoſition of the malt-tax, has been diluted by that grievance into a waſh, in compariſon of which, the common table-beer of England is Burton-ale. Hence the general practice in Scotland, of drinking ſpirits, mixed ſometimes with water, but oftener unmixed. This "heating potion," as is obſerved by a lively writer, "is ill qualified to quench the thirſt of a palate, "ſpiced, ſalted, and peppered, with a Glaſgow herring, an "oaten-cake, and an onion. In former days, in the golden "age of Scotland, when men were at liberty to turn their "barley, without reſtraint, into wholeſome ale, men of all "ranks, as appears, among other evidences, from the "poems of Captain Hamilton, and the poet Allan Ramſay, "would meet together, either at home, or ſome ſnug "thatched tavern, not far from their reſpective reſidences, "and enjoy the tale or the ſong in favour of Caledonia, or "ſome other diſcourſe, over a cup of native ale, and the "produce of the fiſhing-hook and net, ſtretched out by "cheerful hands on their native ſhores. Then the herring "fiſheries flouriſhed, and the Scottiſh fleets were found "in every part of the world. But where is the ſalamander "that can make a comfortable repaſt on a gill of whiſky "and a pickled herring."

Without adopting this Gentleman's exaggerated praiſes of former times, when the Scottiſh nation laboured under greater oppreſſions than even that which he complains of,

I heartily

I heartily join him in recommending to the Society for Promoting the Fiſheries, and the Gentlemen of Scotland in general, " to endeavour, by all means, to pour forth again, " throughout the parched land of Caledonia, the refreſhing " ſtreams of good ale."

Although there is not any poor's tax in Scotland, there is not a people in the world, among whom real objects of compaſſion find readier protection and aſſiſtance than the Scots. To the honour of the lower claſs of people in Scotland, it muſt be mentioned, that they think it diſgraceful to beg, and even to accept the ſmalleſt charitable donation. They therefore, for the moſt part, purſue their different paths of induſtry, as long as they are able to crawl about, and ſubſiſt on the private bounty, however ſcanty, of their neareſt relations, rather than make their wants known to the pariſh. It is only real and clamant neceſſity that urges the humbled Scot to accept of the eleemoſynary contributions of his countrymen, which are not compulſatory, but voluntary, being collected at the church doors on Sundays, and on other occaſions of public worſhip. The wandering beggars that are met with in Scotland, come from the Highland country, where there is not ſuch regular encouragement to induſtry as in the Lowlands, and where a failure of ſuch crops of corn as a cold and mountainous country, in ſo northerly a latitude, is fitted to produce, often drives

the poor people to make a tour into the Low Countries, as their only reſource.

It muſt be confeſſed, at the ſame time, that an Highlander, who is, from the nature of his country, and his manner of life, a more erratic animal than a Lowlander, is drawn forth to the field of mendicants by a ſmaller degree of neceſſity. It is alſo to be obſerved, that the ſhame of begging is not ſo great, when they travel among a different and diſtant people, as it would be in their own pariſhes. Beſides all this, the Highlanders were wont to conſider their Lowland neighbours, whom they regarded as interlopers, and denominated Saxons, in the light of enemies, whom it was no diſhonour to deprive of their wealth, whether by rapine or ſolicitation. A crew of ſailors, thrown on diſtant and inimical ſhores, feel little, if any ſhame in begging, or remorſe at ſeizing the neceſſaries of life, by whatever means they may acquire them. Somewhat of this irregular and iniquitous ſentiment in morals, influences even the mutual intercourſe of nations. A Chineſe ſcarcely conſiders it as a deviation from duty, to cheat and ſpoil an European; and an European fancies that he is not under the ſame moral reſtraint in his dealings with Indians and Africans, that ſhould regulate his conduct to an Engliſhman or a Dutchman. It may alſo be obſerved, that the ſhame of begging, and the ſenſe of honour and independence, which is very ſtrong among the very pooreſt ranks in Scotland, is naturally

turally blunted by living, and being loſt to the eye of their kindred and neighbours, in the magnitude of populous and extenſive cities. A Scot will beg in London or Edinburgh, who would be aſhamed, who durſt not do ſo in his native village.

About thirty years ago, when that excellent Nobleman, the late Earl of Kinnoull, already mentioned in the courſe of theſe notes, retired from England and public life, to his paternal eſtate in Perthſhire, he was aſtoniſhed to find that there was not ſo much as one *pauper* in the pariſh. The collections at the church door were either ſent to other pariſhes, or laid out at intereſt, as a growing fund for contingencies. Lord Kinnoull, the ſole proprietor of the pariſh, ſtruck with this circumſtance, recommended to the Kirk-Seſſion, that is, the Miniſter and the Elders, the Adminiſtrators in Scotland of the voluntary parochial charities, to diſtribute the weekly collection among poor cottagers. Of theſe, however, there was not one that would accept a ſhilling. It was therefore put into the form of flax, which was diſtributed as preſents among the poor, but induſtrious women, who, even then, did not accept of it without heſitation.

This ſenſe of honour, among the loweſt people in Scotland, is a powerful reſtraint on diſſipation, and incentive to induſtry: while the proviſion that is made for the poor

in England, by Acts of Parliament, encourages idleneſs, inſolence, and debauchery, and preſſes down the load of taxation on the induſtrious and ſober part of the nation. The Church-wardens, Veſtry-Clerks, and other pariſh-officers in England, are, in general, as great nuiſances, and as oppreſſive to the people, as the greateſt beggars, to whoſe vices and follies they adminiſter fuel and ſupport from the vitals of the people. It is high time that the ſtate of the poor and poor's rates were made an object of ſerious attention by the Legiſlature.

The funds of the poor in Scotland, though ſmall, are faithfully adminiſtered; and not one farthing is ever waſted by the Kirk-Seſſions, on any pretence. But in England, there is nothing to be done without a feaſt. If the pariſh-officers will feaſt, it is reaſonable at leaſt that they ſhould confine their bill of fare to the rate of that of the work-houſes they regulate.

Cum fueris Romæ Romano vivito more.

The principal hoſpitals in Edinburgh are, Herriot's Hoſpital, Watſon's Hoſpital, the Charity Work-houſe, the Infirmary, the Merchant's Hoſpital, the Trades Maiden Hoſpital, the Orphan Hoſpital, and the Trinity Hoſpital.

Herriot's Hoſpital, ſo called from the founder of it, a goldſmith in Edinburgh, is a magnificent fabric, which was begun

begun to be raiſed in July 1628, and was finiſhed in the year 1650, at an expence of upwards of 30,000l. It was opened for the reception of the ſons of Burgeſſes, and thirty boys admitted into it on the 11th of April, 1659. From time to time this number has been increaſed, till it is now upwards of an hundred. The revenues of this hoſpital amount to about 1800l. in real eſtate. Here the boys are inſtructed in reading, writing, arithmetick, and the Latin tongue. Their appearance is decent, and their manners are generally void of reproach. The proſperous ſtate, both of the boys and the funds belonging to the hoſpital, is chiefly to be attributed to the truly paternal care and attention which are beſtowed on its affairs by the Governors.

Watſon's Hoſpital was inſtituted for the maintenance and education of the offspring of decayed merchants, and for boys the children or grand-children of decayed merchants, in Edinburgh. The founder, George Watſon, was himſelf deſcended from progenitors, who had long been merchants in that city. Upon his death, which happened in April, 1723, he bequeathed to this charity all his fortune, which conſiſted of 12,000l. At preſent upwards of ſixty boys are maintained and educated in this aſylum. Theſe, as well as the youth in Herriot's Hoſpital, are treated with all due attention. The funds of this hoſpital are veſted in truſt with the Merchants Company of Edinburgh. This is a good, ſpacious, and regular building, but far inferior to Herriot's,

which

which, ſtanding to the ſouth-weſt of the caſtle, in a noble ſituation, preſents to the eye of the beholder a grand appearance. It is the fineſt and moſt regular ſpecimen which Inigo Jones, whom James VI. of Scotland brought over from Denmark, has left us of his Gothic manner, and far exceeds any thing of that kind to be ſeen in England.

The Charity Work-houſe of Edinburgh was built A. D. 1743, the expence being defrayed by a voluntary ſubſcription or collection made among the different ſocieties or companies, and alſo among individuals in the place; and the houſe was opened for the reception of the poor that ſame year, at Midſummer. The poor are employed in ſuch pieces of labour as they are beſt fitted for, and are allowed twopence out of every ſhilling they earn. The government of the houſe is veſted in ninety-ſix perſons, who meet quarterly; but its ordinary affairs are under the direction of fifteen managers, who meet weekly. There is a treaſurer, chaplain, ſurgeon, and other officers.

The Royal Infirmary is another noble inſtitution in Edinburgh, reared by the hand of charity, for relieving the diſeaſes of thoſe who are unable to purchaſe comfort and aſſiſtance. The revenues of this houſe, raiſed originally by voluntary contribution, and from time to time augmented by occaſional donations, are very conſiderable, and the number of patients equally ſo. The fabric conſiſts of a body,

and

and two wings, all of them full three ſtories high; and the whole is laid out in a judicious and commodious manner. It is under admirable management, and equally contributes to the relief of the afflicted poor, and the advancement of medical knowledge.

The Merchants Maiden Hoſpital is a charitable foundation, eſtabliſhed in the end of the laſt century by voluntary ſubſcription, to which the Company of Merchants in Edinburgh, and Mrs. Mary Erſkine, a widow-gentlewoman, lent particular aſſiſtance. It is deſtined for the maintenance and education of young girls, daughters of the Merchant Burgeſſes in Edinburgh. The Governors were elected into a body-corporate by Act of Parliament, in the year 1707. At preſent ſeventy girls or upwards, are maintained by this inſtitution. The annual revenue is about 1,350l.

The Trades Maiden Hoſpital is another charitable inſtitution, ſomewhat ſimilar to that juſt deſcribed. The incorporations of Edinburgh, excited by the good example of the Company of Merchants, became deſirous to eſtabliſh, for the daughters of decayed members, a ſimilar foundation. Accordingly, fifty girls are maintained in this houſe. The revenues amount to about 600l. a year.

The Trinity Hoſpital was founded by Mary of Gueldres, conſort of King James II. and amply endowed. At the Reformation

formation it ſuffered in the common ruin of Popiſh monuments; but it was again reſtored by the care of the Magiſtrates and Town-Council. It was deſtined for the ſupport of decayed Burgeſſes of Edinburgh, their wives, and unmarried children not under fifty years of age. The preſent funds are a real eſtate in lands and houſes, about 762l. and 5,500l. lent out in bonds at 4 per cent. The Town-Council of Edinburgh, ordinary and extraordinary, are Governors of this Hoſpital.

The Univerſity of Paris, founded at an early period, has been long reputed, and not improperly called the mother of all others: for, after the model of this, moſt of the Univerſities in Europe were eſtabliſhed. The firſt Univerſity founded in Scotland, was that of St. Andrews, A. D. 1412. The circumſtances of Edinburgh not being erected into an Epiſcopal See till long after the Reformation, and that it was unuſual, if not unprecedented, to have Univerſities erected any where but in metropolitan cities, was perhaps the reaſon why no College was eſtabliſhed at Edinburgh during the times of Popery. It was not, however, deſtitute of ſeminaries of learning: in the Convent of Grey Friars, inſtituted by James I. divinity and philoſophy were taught by eminent maſters, till the Reformation.

Univerſities were originally bodies corporate: and, as eccleſiaſtical corporations, could hold and purchaſe property, and

and ſue and be ſued. Not only the Profeſſors, but the Students alſo, were themſelves of the body-corporate; over which its diſtinguiſhed Officers poſſeſſed an ample juriſdiction, extending to all civil, and to ſuch criminal caſes as were not of a capital nature.

The Chancellor was the Supreme Magiſtrate in moſt Univerſities. This office was formerly held by the Biſhop of the Dioceſe, who preſided in the general councils of the Univerſity, and exerciſed over it a viſitorial authority. The officer next in rank to the Chancellor was the Rector, choſen annually by the whole Members of the Univerſity.

Popery, and the inſtitutions belonging to it, whether founded for the propagation of piety and learning, or from charitable motives, fell in one common ruin. The demolition of the public edifices gratified the barbarous zeal of the Reformers, and the ſpoils of the revenues, their avarice. On the eſtabliſhment of the Reformation, the citizens, accordingly, made loud complaint of the increaſing number of poor, and the ruinous ſtate of ſchools. To ſatisfy and ſtop their juſt clamours, Queen Mary beſtowed upon them all the houſes belonging to any of the religious foundations in Edinburgh, with the lands, and other revenues appertaining to them, in any part of the kingdom. This grant was confirmed by James VI. who alſo beſtowed on them the privilege of erecting ſchools and colleges, for the propaga-

tion of ſcience, and of applying the funds beſtowed on them by his mother, Queen Mary, to the building of houſes for the accommodation of Profeſſors and Students. All the grants made by James VI. in favour of the Univerſity, were ratified by Parliament; and all immunities and privileges beſtowed upon it, that were enjoyed by any College in the Kingdom. The Town-Council of Edinburgh, the abſolute Patrons and Governors of this Univerſity, cannot only inſtitute new Profeſſorſhips, and elect Profeſſors, but depoſe them alſo; the formality, but not the juſtice of their proceedings, being liable to review.

There never was in the Univerſity of Edinburgh an officer ſimilar to that of Chancellor in other Univerſities, which is commonly beſtowed by the Profeſſors on ſome Nobleman of diſtinction, who is a patron of letters, by way of compliment. There was, however, in the College of Edinburgh, a Rector; but that magiſtrate by no means enjoyed the extenſive juriſdiction annexed to the office in other Univerſities. At the Reſtoration, the Students at the Univerſity of Edinburgh appear to have been much tainted with the fanatic principles of the Covenanters: but ſince the reign of William, all diſputes of the religious kind have ceaſed, and the ſole object of conteſt and emulation is advancement in knowledge. Cheriſhed by the munificence of her Sovereign, and by the faithful care and attention of the Magiſtrates of Edinburgh, the Univerſity has been daily becoming

a more

a more extenſive ſeminary of learning: the celebrity of which, at the preſent moment, will juſtify this farther detail of particulars.

The Town-Council of Edinburgh having obtained a legacy of 8,000 merks, about 450l. ſterling, from Robert Reid, then Biſhop of Orkney, for the eſtabliſhment of a *ſchola illuſtris*, began to build a College in the year 1581. In 1583, they appointed Mr. Robert Rollock, or Rollo, then a Profeſſor in the Univerſity of St. Andrew, to be Profeſſor in the College of Edinburgh. And the reputation of that Theologian allured a great many Students to this infant ſeminary.

In 1586, Mr. Rollo was appointed Principal of the College; and in the year thereafter, was alſo choſen Profeſſor of Divinity. Mr. Rollo having, according to the cuſtom of the times, carried his Students through all the branches of academical learning, forty-eight of them at one time received the degree of Maſter of Arts: and out of this number four were afterwards choſen to be Profeſſors in this new College.

When Mr. Rollo was made Profeſſor of Divinity, it was reſolved to appoint two other Profeſſors of Philoſophy; and placards were publiſhed, inviting men of learning to enter the liſts in a public diſputation on Philoſophy, in which the victors were to be inſtalled in the new Profeſſorſhips. Six candidates appeared, and, after a diſputation con-

tinued for ten days, Mr. Colts, of Invereſk, and Mr. Scrimgeour, of Irvin, were preferred. New Profeſſorſhips have ſince been inſtituted, as men of eminence appeared qualified to inſtruct the youth in the different branches of literature; and when any of the Profeſſors in the other Scottiſh Colleges have diſtinguiſhed themſelves in their ſeveral departments, they have generally been invited to Edinburgh, where the greateſt abilities, in every branch of education, have been concentrated, as in a focus. In that eminent Univerſity, none of the Profeſſorſhips have ever been ſuffered to degenerate into ſinecures; their emoluments depending chiefly on their reputation, and ſucceſs in teaching. Their ſalaries are only from 50 to 100l. per annum: and, with regard to the Medical Profeſſors, many of theſe have nothing but the profits of their claſſes.

The Profeſſors are claſſed into the four faculties of Divinity, Law, Medicine, and the Arts and Sciences. The number of ſtudents, in the different profeſſions, reſorting to this ſeminary of learning, have, of late, amounted to about one thouſand, of whom four hundred are proſecuting the ſtudy of Phyſic.

In the year 1681, the Royal College of Phyſicians of Edinburgh was incorporated by a charter from King Charles the Second, which was ratified by Parliament in 1685; and about that time, Sir Robert Sibbald, Author of the *Scotia Illuſtrata*,

luſtrata, was appointed Profeſſor of Medicine there, but without any ſalary.

Dr. Sibbald was ſucceeded by Dr. Archibald Pitcairne; who, about the year 1693, had been prevailed on by the earneſt entreaty of his friends, to reſign the Medical Chair, in the Univerſity of Leyden. He, at the ſame time, declined the moſt flattering ſolicitations and tempting offers to ſettle in London, as, it ſeems, the late Dr. Cullen likewiſe did. The great ability of Dr. Pitcairne, as a Phyſician, will beſt appear by a letter from Dr. Mead to Mr. Walpole, after the year 1715, in which he ſays, "I cannot but think "I ſhould ill deſerve the favours you have honoured me "with, could I ceaſe to remember Dr. Pitcairne, or neglect "to pay this juſt debt to his memory; for to him is the "merit due, if ever I had the good fortune to deſerve well "of Mr. Walpole as a Phyſician. To him it is that Dr. "Mead owes the ſolid foundation of that eminent eſteem "he is now in; ſo that by him, though dead, even the "Throne and the Royal Family may be ſaid to be now de-"fended. But how much that worthy phyſician has de-"ſerved of all mankind, you cannot but hear the learned "and ingenious every day proclaim." Dr. Boerhave's opinion of Pitcairne's abilities alſo appears in his Method of Studying Medicine, publiſhed by Haller, where he terms his writings "*optima & perfecta*." In Mead's Works alſo, we find the following character: *Archibaldus Pitcairne dictus eſt inter Phyſiologos*,

Phyſiologos, iatro-mathematicus, ex celebrioribus, Bellini amicus, Preceptor Boerhavii, qui multa ab eo recepit.

The different branches of phyſic were not regularly taught at Edinburgh till about the year 1720, when Dr. Sinclair, the favourite pupil and intended ſucceſſor of the illuſtrious Boerhave, at Leyden; Dr. Innes, Dr. Plummer, Dr. Alſton, and the late Dr. Alexander Monro, had begun to give regular courſes of lectures. Dr. Monro, then a very promiſing young man in Anatomy and Surgery; Dr. Plummer, in Chymiſtry and Pharmacy; Dr. Alſton, in Botany and the Materia Medica; Dr. Sinclair, in the Theory, and Dr. Innes, in the Practice of Phyſic. Dr. Innes was ſoon ſucceeded by Dr. Rutherford, and Dr. Sinclair by Dr. White. Dr. Plummer was ſucceeded by Dr. Cullen, from Glaſgow; and Dr. Cullen being removed to the Chair of the Theory, and afterwards to that of the Practice of Phyſic, was ſucceeded in the Chymiſtry by Dr. Black, who was alſo from the Univerſity of Glaſgow. Dr. Rutherford was ſucceeded by the late Dr. John Gregory, from Aberdeen; who has been ſucceeded by his ſon, the preſent Profeſſor, James Gregory. Thus, by the abilities, attention, and induſtry of a few men, not only eminent in their own profeſſion, but an honour to their country, and to human nature, the College of Edinburgh has, within this century, ariſen, from almoſt nothing, to be the firſt Medical School in Europe.

The

The Degrees beſtowed by the Univerſity of Edinburgh are, thoſe of Doctor of Divinity, of Law, of Medicine, and Maſter of Arts. Of theſe, the firſt two are honorary, and generally conferred, not in conſequence of pecuniary donations, as at St. Andrew's and Aberdeen, but on men of acknowledged learning and abilities. Nor is a Degree in Medicine conferred at Edinburgh, until the Candidates have undergone a ſtrict examination, both public and private. If natives of Great-Britain, they muſt have ſtudied, at leaſt three years; if foreigners, two years, in the Univerſity: they muſt undergo, firſt, a private examination before the Dean and Faculty of Arts, on the branches of Literature and Philoſophy. They muſt afterwards recite and defend, before the *Senatus Academicus*, a theſis upon any of the ſubjects taught by the Faculty.

Medical Degrees are ſometimes conferred by the Univerſity of Edinburgh upon ſtrangers; in which caſe, it muſt be certified to the Faculty, that the Candidate has attended ſome Univerſity for a certain term of years, and that he is a perſon diſtinguiſhed by ſome literary reputation. This learned body, in conferring Medical Degrees, do not conſider the period, ſo much as proficiency in the ſtudy of every branch of Medicine. The Candidates are firſt examined privately; nor is this firſt examination divulged to the world, but faithfully buried in the breaſts of the Medical Profeſſors, that the young man may not ſuſtain any injury, either in cha-

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racter or fortune, if it ſhould be judged neceſſary to remit him to his ſtudies. The private examinations are generally held at the houſe of one of the Profeſſors; and the firſt public examinations in the College, are on general ſubjects in medicine. If the Student acquit himſelf to the ſatisfaction of the Profeſſors, they give him, as a text for a medical diſcourſe, one of the aphoriſms of Hippocrates. He is again examined; and, if approven, receives one or two caſes of patients, on which he gives a written opinion, explaining the nature of the diſeaſe, and the mode of cure. On theſe he is alſo examined by the Profeſſors who ſtated them. He then obtains permiſſion to publiſh his Theſis, on which he is publicly examined: when, by authority of the Univerſity, he is promoted to the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

The only objections that ever have been made to the medical degrees from the College of Edinburgh, at leaſt by thoſe who are not influenced by the local prejudices of the vulgar, are, 1ſt, That the term of three years, is, by far too ſhort for the ſtudy of medicine. 2dly, That the Students of Edinburgh may thus become Doctors in Medicine before their beards are grown; for, on this point, there is not, it ſeems, in that Univerſity, any reſtriction as to the circumſtance of age. But to all this it is anſwered, that, although three years are preſcribed as the ſhorteſt term for their actual attendance at Edinburgh, it is never ſuppoſed, neither does it probably ever happen, that they come there without any

previous

previous knowledge of phyſic: for nine-tenths of the Medical Students in Scotland are from three to five years engaged in that buſineſs before they come to Edinburgh.

In former times, when the philoſophy of Ariſtotle was conſidered as infallible, and none were admitted to the degree even of Maſter of Arts, until he was thoroughly verſed in all the tenets of that Dialectician, and could diſpute ſyllogiſtically, *pro* or *con*, on either ſide of the queſtion; then indeed, when beſides all this, a thorough acquaintance with the works, and all the Commentators on the immortal Hippocrates, as well as with the voluminous productions of Galen, Avicenna, &c. was judged an indiſpenſable qualification in a phyſician, the candidate for a medical degree muſt have employed, in preparatory ſtudies, a good portion of his life, if he had been ever ſo diligent; for, in thoſe days, there were no ſuch medical ſchools as Leyden and Edinburgh. But, the only point here to be conſidered, is, whether, after four or five years preparation in other places, three years attendance and diligent application at Edinburgh, where they have every poſſible opportunity of ſtudying phyſic both in theory and practice, (for in the Royal Infirmary they have the Clinical Lectures, as well as the caſes and operations in the practice of Surgery)—Whether, I ſay, ſuch opportunities may not be reckoned equal to ſix or more years reſidence, where they have no lectures whatever, nor any hoſpital practice to ſee or attend

to, may at leaſt be made a queſtion. This, however, is only comparatively ſpeaking, for if the terms at Edinburgh were four years inſtead of three, and no medical degree conferred on any Student, under twenty-one years of age, their courſe of medical ſtudy would be ſtill more complete.

Though the Edinburgh College has of late years frequently conferred medical degrees upon Students under age, in former times the Scotch Doctors were brought forward in a very different manner. About thirty or forty years ago, they had not, in North Britain, made ſuch diſtinctions between the different branches of the profeſſion as now. The young men, accordingly, who were intended for the practice of Phyſic or Surgery, after a good Grammar School education, were put apprentices to ſome practitioners in the buſineſs. If this happened to be in Edinburgh, Glaſgow, Aberdeen, or St. Andrew's, they were, during the time of their apprenticeſhip, allowed to attend the Colleges; at leaſt the Greek Claſs, the Mathematics, Natural and Experimental Philoſophy, and of late, Natural Hiſtory and Chymiſtry. Even where there were no Univerſities, as in Dumfries, Perth, Dundee, Inverneſs, &c. they had always opportunities of attending ſchools and academies, where they might learn Greek and Mathematics. The term of their apprenticeſhip, which was generally from three to five years, being expired, they came to Edinburgh, where they attended the Anatomy and Chymiſtry Claſſes the firſt Seſſion,

ſion, in the Winter, the Botany in the Summer, and the Royal Infirmary all the year round. The ſecond Seſſion, the Materia Medica, and generally the Theory of Phyſic; and in the Summer, Natural Hiſtory. The third Seſſion, they attended the Practice of Phyſic, and Clinical Lectures.

This was the general courſe for thoſe who could afford the time and the expence; but there were ſome among them who could not, perhaps, attend more than half that time; yet even theſe, by a careful and diligent application in that ſhort ſpace, were generally well qualified for acting as Surgeons Mates in the Royal Navy and Army; or as Journeymen in the ſhops of ſome Surgeon-Apothecaries. For about that time, even in Edinburgh, the Surgeon and Apothecary was generally one and the ſame perſon, though they kept not any open ſhops, leaving that to the Druggiſt and Chymiſt. They had, however, a Laboratory, ſomewhat like our Apothecaries Hall, in which they were all joint-partners. Even at this day, the Surgeons, before they are admitted into the Company, muſt be examined, in *Rebus Anatomicis, Chirurgicis, atque Pharmaceuticis.* In their bills to their patients, as they do not keep open ſhops, their laſt article is a blank for attendance, &c.

When the Student and young Practitioner then, after

ſerving for ſome years in the Navy or Army, or on board the ſhips of ſome great trading Company, returned to his own Country, he often ſpent a year or two more at Edinburgh, where he probably took his degree in Medicine. After all, if he ſettled in Scotland, it was at firſt only as a Surgeon-Apothecary, in which character he was employed in all common caſes: and when a conſultation was judged neceſſary, a Phyſician was called in of long eſtabliſhed reputation, who had, in all probability, been formerly bred in the ſame manner himſelf. This Surgeon-Apothecary, poſſibly with his degree as a Phyſician in his pocket, generally continued to practiſe occaſionally, in all the different branches of Medicine and Surgery, till, through old age, his eyes began to fail and his hand to ſhake. Then, if his character for experience and profeſſional abilities had by that time been ſufficiently confirmed, he reſigned the lancet and ſhop to one of his former pupils, of whom he had the beſt opinion, and thenceforth acted only as a Conſulting Phyſician. Whether this courſe, in which theory was always accompanied with practice, or the preſent more faſhionable mode of medical education, deſerves the preference, is a matter that I leave entirely to the conſideration of medical men.

The powers of the College of Phyſicians of Edinburgh extend only to the City and Suburbs; but that of the College of Surgeons, or rather the Surgeon-Apothecaries, for they

they are ſtill of the ſame Corporation, comprehends ſix or ſeven counties on the Eaſt Coaſt of Scotland, from Berwick to Fife, incluſive; and none are permitted to practiſe either Surgery or Pharmacy within theſe boundaries, until they have been examined by that College, and approved.

The Faculty of Phyſic, that is, the Phyſicians and Surgeons of the City of Glaſgow, have a ſimilar juriſdiction over the Practitioners in the Counties of Lannark, Air, Renfrew, and Dunbarton, on the Weſt Coaſt; and in the very judicious Charter granted them by King James the VI. anno 1599, it is ſpecified, that no manner of perſons are to exerciſe medicine within the ſaid bounds, without the teſtimonial of "ane famous Univerſity, where Medicine is taught." By the ſame Charter they are enjoined, "to viſit every perſon that may be hurt, murdered, poiſoned, or taken away *extraordinary*, and report to the Magiſtrates the fact as it is;" they are alſo obliged to convene, on the firſt Monday in every month, to viſit and give council to the poor gratis.

By ſtatute 3d of Henry VIII. cap. 2, the Biſhops in the ſeveral dioceſes in England, were empowered to grant licences to the Phyſicians and Surgeons. In Scotland, where there is not, now, any eſtabliſhment of Biſhops, would it not be proper to grant Charters, ſimilar to thoſe of Glaſgow

gow and Edinburgh, to the Phyſicians and Surgeons of Dumfries, for the three ſouthern; and to thoſe of Perth, Aberdeen, and Inverneſs, for the northern counties?

There are other Colleges in Scotland, where Degrees in Medicine may be obtained on terms ſtill eaſier than at Edinburgh. The Univerſity of Glaſgow, indeed, having Profeſſors of Chymiſtry, Anatomy, and Botany, as well as Medicine, are endeavouring, by an excellent courſe of ſtudy, to imitate the laudable example of the Scottiſh capital. But the greateſt deficiency in Glaſgow at preſent is, that they have no public Hoſpital where the ſtudents can ſee either the practice of Phyſic or Surgery. Were it not for this, the Medical Degrees of the Univerſity of Glaſgow might juſtly be conſidered equivalent to thoſe of the Dublin College.

Every Univerſity in Great Britain or Ireland has the undoubted legal privilege of granting Doctors Degrees, either in Divinity, Law, or Phyſic, according to ſuch rules and regulations as they may think proper to lay down for their own conduct in that behalf. But whether the Public, in this enlightened age, can be ſo blind as to conſider indiſcriminately the Degrees of all thoſe Univerſities where Phyſic is or is not taught, to be of equal importance, I ſhall not take upon me to determine!

At

At St. Andrew's, and the two Colleges in Aberdeen, where *Medicine is not taught*, it is no wonder that they require no perſonal examinations! The atteſtation of two Phyſicians of character and reputation, as to the abilities of the Candidates for their Degree, is ſufficient. If the names of thoſe Phyſicians, indeed, were inſerted in the Diploma, and ſome proofs were alſo required that the Candidate had ſtudied for a reaſonable time, in any College where Medicine is *regularly* taught, the St. Andrew's and Aberdeen Degrees might be conſidered of ſome conſequence in future, though at preſent they are merely nominal.

Had the union of the King's and Mariſchall Colleges been effected upon a judicious and liberal plan, as they have now Profeſſors of Chymiſtry, Natural Hiſtory, &c. and a very reſpectable Infimary, or Public Hoſpital, at Aberdeen, the ſtudy of Medicine and Surgery might have been proſecuted there with as much advantage, as at any town in Scotland, Edinburgh only excepted; but the proper time is now loſt, poſſibly for ever. If the expence attending Degrees, in thoſe Colleges, at leaſt, where Medicine *is not taught*, was appropriated for purchaſing books, or for ſome ſuch public purpoſe, and never, upon any account, allowed to go into the pocket of individuals, it might, in a great meaſure, prevent the future proſtitution of thoſe honorary teſtimonials.

A new Profeſſorſhip has of late been added to the Univerſity

verſity of Edinburgh by William Pultney, Eſq. It is extremely fortunate for the State when affluence of fortune is found in conjunction with enlargement of ideas, and with public ſpirit. Mr. Pultney, for the purpoſe of eſtabliſhing a Profeſſorſhip of Agriculture (the firſt in the Britiſh Dominions) ſunk, or, according to the legal term in Scotland, *mortified*, in the hands of the Town-Council of Edinburgh, the ſum of one thouſand two hundred and fifty pounds ſterling, as a fund for the payment of a ſalary of fifty pounds per annum, to be paid to the Profeſſor at two terms in the year, by equal portions. The wiſdom with which this Gentleman has framed regulations for the conduct and election of the Pultneian Profeſſor, is equal to his liberality in his endowment. Among other conditions of this Agricultural Eſtabliſhment it is provided, that the minimum fee to be taken from the Students, ſhall be one guinea for the Courſe, no doubt being entertained that the Students will give more, in proportion to their means, and their ſenſe of the importance of the object. It was not Mr. Pultney's intention to erect a ſinecure place, but that the principal emoluments ſhould ariſe from the claſs. The Profeſſor is, annually, to deliver at Edinburgh, a ſet of inſtructions or lectures on the ſubject of agriculture, reſpecting the nature of ſoils and manures, the modes of cultivation, the ſucceſs of crops, the conſtruction of implements of huſbandry, the beſt and moſt ſucceſsful known practices, the manner of inſtituting experiments to aſcertain the effect of any

propoſed

propoſed practice in any given ſoil or climate, and the beſt manner of introducing or training ſkilful labourers and country artificers, where theſe may be wanting. The patronage of this inſtitution, or the choice of fit perſons to fill this office on ſucceſſive vacancies, is, after the deceaſe of the founder, veſted jointly in three diſtinct bodies—the Judges of the Courts of Seſſion and Exchequer, the Magiſtrates and Town-Council of Edinburgh, and the Univerſity of Edinburgh. The members of each of theſe three bodies, at ſome convenient time after a vacancy ſhall have happened, and in conſequence of public advertiſement, ſhall be entitled, by majority of votes given, either by voice or letter, to name three delegates, who meeting, on three days previous notice, in the Hall, or other convenient place of the Univerſity, and, forming a body of nine electors, ſhall, by a majority of thoſe preſent, make the election; the above notice of the time of meeting being given to each elector perſonally, or left in writing at his dwelling-houſe, with power to adjourn the day of election from time to time, if no fit perſon ſhall be then propoſed. The patronage of literary foundations is, for the moſt part, retained in the families of thoſe who make them; and hence they are too often perverted to the purpoſes of politics, and various humours and paſſions. The wiſe munificence of Mr. Pultney is crowned by this circumſtance, that the patronage of his eſtabliſhment is alienated from his own family, and veſted in a general body of electors, com-

poſed of the beſt judges of merit, and of men who have, not only the proſperity of the City and Univerſity of Edinburgh at heart, but the general welfare and honour of the nation.

There is alſo at Edinburgh a grammar-ſchool, commonly called the High School. It has gone through many changes and revolutions; but is, at this preſent time, a moſt reſpectable ſeminary of learning. The building is extenſive and good, being in length, from ſouth to north, one hundred and twenty feet, and in breadth from thirty-ſix to thirty-eight, and the whole ſurrounded with walls.

With reſpect to what is of moſt importance in the Scotch Metropolis, the ſtate of ſociety and manners, they may be conſidered under the different particulars by which they ſeem to be moſt materially influenced. Theſe are, firſt, the perſons that reſort to it. Secondly, the Courts of Juſtice. Thirdly, the Univerſity. And fourthly, the ſtate of religion.

People come to Edinburgh on three different accounts:—buſineſs, amuſement, and education. The character of men of buſineſs, whoſe immediate object is gain, and the advancement of their fortune, is, in all countries, nearly the ſame, and varied only by perſonal character. It may be obſerved, that, as the offices of drudgery and of labour,

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that require not any ſkill, are generally performed in London by Iriſhmen, and Welch people of both ſexes; ſo all ſuch inferior departments are filled in Edinburgh by the Highlanders. The riſing generation acquire more enlarged views than their fathers, and ſtrike into other paths of life: ſo that there is a conſtant influx of ſtout healthy men from the mountainous country into Edinburgh, as well as into other cities of note in Scotland, to ſupply the places of porters, barrow-men, chairmen, and ſuch like. It is alſo Highlanders, chiefly, that compoſe the City-Guard of Edinburgh. The reſort of Highlanders to the Scottiſh Metropolis is ſo great, that there is a chapel, where divine ſervice is performed in the Erſe language. The Highlanders naturally aſſociate with one another, and live chiefly together, as a different people from the Lowlanders, which indeed they are. Their children are taught the Erſe languagc, juſt in the ſame manner that the children of the Jews are taught Hebrew in London.

It has been cuſtomary for genteel families in Scotland to live a good deal in Edinburgh, not only for the pleaſure of ſociety and amuſement, but for the education of their children, both males and females. This practice grows every day more and more frequent; and the fame of the Univerſity, and other Schools, the elegance and accommodation of the place, the public diverſions, and the expence of living not yet ſo high as in London, invite to Edinburgh

many families of moderate fortune from the northern counties of England, to whom, beſides other circumſtances, it is not a little recommended by vicinity of ſituation. The proportion of gentlemen and ladies, to the trading and manufacturing part of the inhabitants, is, on theſe accounts, greater in Edinburgh, though it wants the advantage of a Court, than in moſt other towns of equal extent in Europe.

It may appear, perhaps, doubtful, whether this proportion be increaſed or diminiſhed, by the great multitude of lawyers that reſide, and indeed, in ſome meaſure, give the tone to the manners of the Scotch Metropolis. There is nothing in Edinburgh of equal dignity and importance to the Court of Seſſion, nor any profeſſion ſo much followed as that of the Law. The lawyers, in ſhort, are the principal people in that city; and the Bar is there the grand ladder of ambition. Hence, among the young men particularly, there is a diſputatious dogmatiſm and captious petulance, which to a well-bred ſtranger appears highly diſguſting: but hence, too, a certain argumentative acuteneſs, which we no where find ſo generally diffuſed.

But this logical acuteneſs, and ſtrong paſſion for diſplaying it, is, no doubt, to be aſcribed, in part, to that ſpirit of Philoſophy, which has been excited by the Profeſſors of the Univerſity, and certain individuals, inhabitants of Edinburgh, particularly the celebrated David Hume,

Hume, ſince whoſe days every young man of education and genius is a Metaphyſician. The two branches of ſcience that are ſtudied with the greateſt ardour in Edinburgh, are Metaphyſics and Medicine: the firſt comprehending, or at leaſt running into Moral Philoſophy and Logic: theſecond, connected with Natural Hiſtory and Philoſophy, particularly Anatomy and Chymiſtry. The ſtudy of Chymiſtry, raiſed to eminence and diſtinction by the illuſtrious Doctors Cullen and Black, became, ſome years ago, ſo faſhionable among the lawyers, and other gentlemen in Edinburgh, that many of them attended the Chymical Lectures and Experiments, as regularly as the Students.

That the lawyers, whoſe buſineſs for life is neceſſarily to be employed in wrangling, and diſputes, ſhould, from their early youth, accuſtom themſelves to that kind of verbal warfare, is natural, and can ſcarcely be termed improper: the Divines, in former times, were under the neceſſity of making themſelves maſters of caſuiſtry, and all the quirks of the Ariſtotelian Logic; though this is now much neglected, if not deſpiſed by men of real abilities. But it is a misfortune, that the Students of Phyſic, a ſcience which depends ſo much upon experiment, ſhould be miſled; firſt, by framing viſionary theories in their own brains, and then producing and tenaciouſly defending them in their public Societies; where their object, like that of their fellow Students of

of the Law, is often for victory rather than for the diſcovery of truth.

If, before it is too late, ſome method could be fallen upon to moderate the ardour of ſuch youthful conteſts, it would undoubtedly be of conſiderable advantage to the Students, as well as to the Univerſity. The Judges find it neceſſary to exert their authority in keeping the lawyers within the bounds of moderation; and in both Houſes of Parliament it is requiſite to have an officer, termed the Speaker, to call the Members to order. If one of the Profeſſors in their turns were always to preſide in the Medical or Phyſical Societies at Edinburgh, it might alſo be of uſe: but ſhould this prove inadequate; let the anſwers, as well as the diſſertations, or queſtions propoſed for diſcuſſion, be put in writing, and regularly read at the next meeting of the Society. This would prove a much more deliberate and ſatisfactory mode of proceeding; it would give time for reflection, and even for experiments, the only true teſt of Medical, or any ſpecies of knowledge.

The names of Smith, Robertſon, Black, Ferguſſon, Cullen, Monro, Gregory, and other *Edinburgenſes*, diſtinguiſhed by their writings, are well known. I ſhall only obſerve here, that there are ſome among the Profeſſors who have not yet made a figure as Authors, who by thoſe that know them beſt, and are competent judges, are conſidered of equal

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rank with thoſe who have. Mr. Dugald Steward, Profeſſor of Moral Philoſophy, and Mr. J. Playfair, Profeſſor of Mathematics, excell in every branch of literature and ſcience, know how to appreciate each, trace them to their firſt principles, and view them as connected together, and forming one whole. Such men are well fitted to raiſe the views of the mere mathematician and dealer in ſolitary and unconnected experiments to the nature and the relations of general truth or knowledge, and to temper the airy elevations of the unſubſtantial Metaphyſician, by frequently checking him in his flights, and calling back his attention to the objects of ſenſe, from which, or, at leaſt, by means of which, our moſt abſtracted ideas are originally derived.

The grand incentive to thoſe admirable efforts that are made by the Profeſſors of Edinburgh, for the inſtruction of youth, and advancement of knowlege, is neceſſity. Their ſalaries are, on the whole, inſignificant: they depend chiefly on the fees given by their pupils. The Students here, as at the other Univerſities in Scotland, are called upon to give an account of the lectures or leſſons they receive in the public claſs, in the ſame manner that the ſcholars are examined at Weſtminſter, or other ſchools. Thus the induſtry of the young gentlemen is excited by a principle of honour and ambition. In the French Univerſities, particularly the two moſt celebrated, thoſe of Paris and Douay, it is the cuſtom of the Students to give an account of the lectures of the

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Profeſſors in writing. This practice is excellently calculated to fix attention, to improve memory, and to ſtrengthen the habit of reaſoning, and referring, in the way of analyſis, different particulars to general heads or principles. In moſt of the claſſes, this might be adopted by the Profeſſors of Edinburgh, without interfering with any of thoſe other practices by which their Univerſity has riſen to its preſent celebrity.

As the Miniſters of Edinburgh are choſen by the Town-Council, who are inclined, for the moſt part, to conſult the humours of the people, the Clergy may be conſidered rather in the light of indexes, or ſymptoms, than as influencing, in any material degree, the ſentiments and manners of their hearers. On all extraordinary occaſions, however, the Clergy, who are in general well reſpected by the people, are of conſequence. Ever ſince the days of the *Congregation*, there has been a great party in Scotland, who ſtudy to raiſe the Eccleſiaſtical above the Civil Power, in all matters that bear the moſt diſtant relation to the Church. They contend, not only that the people have a right of chuſing their own ſpiritual paſtors, but alſo, that to them belongs the right of diſpoſing of thoſe temporalities which had been aſſigned, in times of Popery, by Lay Patrons, for the maintenance of the Clergy, and for the ſalvation of both their anceſtors and their poſterity. This is the grand *pomum eridos*, the main ſubject of diviſion in the Scottiſh Eccleſiaſtical Courts,

Courts, and the *Shibboleth*, by which the zealots for what they call the Rights of Chriſt, try if the *root of the matter* be within their Miniſters. Let a man be avaricious, ſevere in his manners, unjuſt in his dealings; let him be malignant, earthly, ſenſual, deviliſh; nay, let him be gaudy in his apparel, and even gallant to the ladies; yet, ſhall zeal for the Rights of the Chriſtian People cover the multitude of all thoſe ſins, and raiſe the ſacred ſinner to the very ſummit of popular promotion. On the other hand, let a candidate for an eccleſiaſtical benefice be generous, affable, and juſt; be he kindly affectioned, heavenly-minded, and inoffenſive in the whole of his conduct; nay, be he humble, and even ſlovenly in his attire, and an open rebuker, like the ſect of the *Seceders*, of promiſcuous dancing; yet if he maintain the Civil Rights of Lay Patrons, he is not deemed a fit perſon to take charge of Souls. The Seceders, who are very numerous, are religioniſts who broke off about fifty years ago from the communion of the Church, on account of various corruptions that had crept into her, but chiefly becauſe the Eſtabliſhed Clergy maintained, or at leaſt acquieſced in lay-patronage, and neglected to renew the Covenant. The Seceders allow men to dance with men, and women to dance with women; but for men to dance with women, which they call *promiſcuous* dancing, they hold to be a great abomination.

The doctrine of the Rights of the Chriſtian People, to diſ-

poſe of the patrimony of the Church, is not a little dangerous to the Civil Government. Were the people permitted to govern the Church, they would go on with their encroachments, and the days of the Covenant would be renewed. For, it is ſtrongly impreſſed on the minds of all fanatics, that the *Saints* alone have a right to inherit the earth: and a pretext can never be wanting for controlling the affairs of the earth, to thoſe who imagine themſelves to be poſſeſſed of the excluſive favour of Heaven. The Magiſtrates of Boroughs in Scotland have frequent occaſion to obſerve the ſtrong diſpoſition of the popular Clergy to take the trouble, not only of conducting ſpiritual, but alſo temporal affairs. A Magiſtrate of Edinburgh, reflecting on this pragmatical turn in a Clergyman, ſaid, "I ventured my life "in a ſtorm to bring him acroſs the Frith, and I would "now venture it, a ſecond time, to ſet him back again."

During a full century, there has exiſted in Scotland a ſect, partly religious and partly political, the members of which are vulgarly diſtinguiſhed by the name of Jacobites. It exhibits a reſemblance, in miniature, of that ſelect nation, the Jews, who, buffeted and ſpurned by all people and languages on the face of the earth, perſiſt inflexibly in the doctrines of their fathers. At the Revolution in 1688, King William, it is ſaid, made an offer to the Scotch Prelates, of ſupporting Epiſcopacy in Scotland, on condition that they would own and ſupport his right to the Crown. "*Full of heavenly ſtuff,*"

ſtuff," and endued with a moſt "*plentiful lack*" of wordly wiſdom, they refuſed to cloſe with his propoſal. Preſbytery, of courſe, was eſtabliſhed, and all of the Epiſcopal perſuaſion degraded to the rank of ſectaries, in which they have ſince remained.

For ſixty years after this period, they formed a ſtrong and reſpectable party in the north; frequent attempts to reſtore the exiled Stuarts, ſupporting their ſpirits, and inſpiring them with hopes of once more gaining the maſtery. The romantic and moſt ruinous adventure of Charles Edward, in 1745, gave the finiſhing blow to their political importance. Even as a religious ſociety they have been terribly lopped and thinned, by the introduction of certain religious adventurers, called Qualified Epiſcopal Clergymen, though very unjuſtly, as belonging to no Biſhopric.

Yet even thus extenuated, and verging ſwiftly towards annihilation, they preſerve, with no ſmall ſelf-importance and fanciful dignity, the form of a national church. Though they "do not now thunder in the capitol, they hold their little ſenate at Utica, and rail at *Cæſar*." Their Biſhops are choſen and conſecrated, if not with all the pride, pomp, and circumſtance of glorious prelacy, at leaſt with the imitation thereof; nor is the election of a Pope attended with more intrigue and cabal. Thoſe venerable fa-

thers lately ſtept forth a little to the public view, by imparting a portion of their apoſtolic authority to Doctor Seabury, an American Clergyman. One of them, on that occaſion, publiſhed a ſermon, which, in the preſent period of liberality and extended ſcience, muſt appear as a curious remain of that ſectarian ſpirit which prevailed in the laſt century. They find great conſolation in likening their ſtate to that of the primitive church, unconnected with political ſociety, and independent of the powers of this world; and though the reſembling features between theſe be indeed very few and faint, yet uninformed and credulous minds readily diſcover a ſimilitude, and the preachers, who by that craft have their living, fail not to illuſtrate and enforce the doctrine. Whether ſuch a metaphyſical ſource of comfort will long preſerve the party in exiſtence, can only be a matter of conjecture. To determine the progreſs, and the periods of religious opinion, Philoſophy exerts her powers in vain. This church, who are prohibited by Act of Parliament from ordaining Chaplains, wiſh to have that Act repealed, and that their clerical orders, as they now pray for the Royal Family, ſhould be valid in England. This is a matter of little importance. But, by a ſtatute of the 19th of George II. it is enacted, that neither Peer nor Commoner, who has been twice preſent at a non-jurant place of worſhip within twelve months, can either vote or be elected to Parliament. Now, as ſix people make a congregation, and thoſe non-jurant aſſem-

aſſemblies are as yet illegal, they may be much haraſſed. So lately as the year 1777, a Juſtice of Peace of one of the northern counties, ſhut up, in virtue of his office, all the Meeting-houſes in his neighbourhood, and threatened to ſend the clergymen to priſon. The people, however, entered thoſe places of worſhip by the back doors: and the Juſtice, aſhamed of his conduct, in a few months permitted their paſtors again to appear in public. The Penal Statute, or Statutes, if there be more than that juſt mentioned, againſt the Scottiſh Epiſcopalians, ought, eſpecially as they now pray for the King, and undoubtedly will be repealed. That claſs of religioniſts are not Diſſenters, ſeeking relief from Teſt and Corporation Acts. They are members of a church ſimilar to that of England, demanding in Scotland only what the Preſbyterians enjoy in England; the right of voting when in poſſeſſion of a freehold, or qualification for electing; or being elected into Parliament. Nothing can be more juſt in itſelf, or tend more to conſolidate the union of the two kingdoms, than that all diſtinction, eſpecially all odious diſtinction, ſhould, as much as poſſible, be aboliſhed. On this ground, it would be equally humane and political to repeal any law that might be brought to bear againſt the acquiſition of a legal parochial ſettlement in England by a Scotchman. Wherever a man gives the benefit of his vigour, there ought his old age and infirmities to be protected.

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Among the laws of Scotland, that appear ſingular to a ſtranger, are the following: In order to conſtitute a legal marriage, it is not neceſſary that there be any previous publication of bans, nor yet that it be ſolemnized either with religious ceremonies, or any formalities of law or juſtice. Mutual acknowledgment, with conjugal intercourſe, makes a marriage: ſo alſo does common *habit and repute*, or cohabitation for a year and a day. This law of cuſtom is well calculated to promote a generous intercourſe and connection among all ranks and claſſes of people, and to protect the female ſex from many of thoſe infamous arts of ſeduction that are practiſed in England, and in ſome other countries. On the other hand, the unſuſpicious and unguarded youth are thereby expoſed to the machinations of immoral and abandoned women. And, a marriage ſolemnized with all public form and ſolemnity, is not held valid, if it ſhall be made to appear, that either of the contracting parties has been diſpoſed of, and engaged by a previous, though private marriage. In direct contraſt with this matrimonial law ſtands the public record of mortgages on all landed property in Scotland. A man may be ſure of his bargain if he purchaſe an eſtate in Scotland: but, even after the utmoſt precaution, he may *poſſibly* take an eel by the tail in marrying a wife. However, this conſideration entirely vaniſhes among the other riſks that muſt infallibly be incurred by matrimony in any country.

It is provided by certain ſtatutes enacted in the reign of James VI. in the end of the 16th century, "That if two "perſons have a lawſuite together, ſhall, *pendente lite*, quarrel "and ſtrike each other, the perſon firſt offending by a "blow, ſhall forfeit the action, be it of what value ſoever." And upon theſe ſtatutes the Court of Seſſion, about two years ago, gave judgment in the cauſe of Fowler *verſus* Gilleſpie, relating to a ſmall piece, or *feu* of ground in Fifeſhire.

It is a miſtaken notion, that there is, in all caſes of importance, an appeal from the Court of Seſſion in Scotland, to the Houſe of Peers in England. By the rules of the Houſe of Lords, no Petition of appeal can be entered during the receſs of Parliament. And if, during this interval, the Court of Seſſion ſhall have paſſed ultimate judgment in a *civil caſe*, however problematical, but upon which execution and perſonal arreſtment can proceed in fourteen days, and the Court ſhall refuſe on Petition to arreſt judgment until Parliament meets, and an appeal can be entered; the party has no reſource but to comply, or to go to jail, or, by applying for a legal ſequeſtration of his effects, in fact, declare himſelf a bankrupt: for he cannot *force* bail until he make an appeal to the Supreme Court of Judicature in the united kingdoms.

It may not, perhaps, be thought very characteriſtical of Edinburgh to obſerve, that there is a variety of clubs among the men, in which hard drinking is ſtill kept up, though not to ſuch exceſs as formerly; and that the women, eſpecially the younger ones, are not ſo attentive to domeſtic matters, as their grand-mothers, and much given to ſtrolling in the ſtreets.

The people of Edinburgh, with the Scotch nation in general, are commonly ſaid to poſſeſs great preſence of mind, as well as great reſolution in ſituations of difficulty and danger. Even tumultuous aſſemblies, or mobs, it is remarked, have often conducted their deſigns with great deliberation, as well as perſeverance. A ſtriking example of this occurred in 1736, in the murder of Captain Porteous, commandant of the city-guard. The popular diſcontents with the Union were not allayed, when the impoſition of new taxes, particularly the malt-tax, excited throughout Scotland a general diſſatisfaction, and almoſt a ſpirit of oppoſition to Government. The new taxes were to be enforced, and the authority of the legiſlature maintained, by the execution of a daring ſmuggler who had ſignalized his boldneſs in ſetting the Laws at defiance. Orders were given to Captain Porteous to employ, if neceſſary, the force committed to his care, in quelling a threatened inſurrection in favour of the condemned priſoner. A ſhower of ſtones, broken glaſſes, and other miſ-

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ſile weapons diſcharged againſt Officers of Juſtice, at the common place of execution, in the Graſs-Market, announced the premeditated and predicted onſet. The ſoldiers, having repeatedly fired their pieces, charged only with powder, to no purpoſe, the Captain of the Guard ordered them at laſt to charge with bullet. Six men of the mob were killed, and about double of that number wounded. The Captain, proſecuted by the City of Edinburgh, and condemned by a Jury of enraged Citizens to death, being naturally conſidered as a ſufferer in the cauſe of Government, obtained a reprieve from Queen Caroline, who was at the head of the Regency, during the abſence of George II. her royal conſort, in his paternal dominions in Germany.

But the Edinburghers, fired with national jealouſy and reſentment, conſidered the royal exerciſe of mercy as an inſult to the dignity of the Scottiſh Metropolis, and an injury to the *manes* of the ſlain. An armed rabble, on the night before the day that had been fixed for the execution of Porteus, ſurpriſed and diſarmed the Town-guard, ſeized the gates of the City for preventing the admiſſion of the troops quartered in the ſuburbs, ſet fire to the priſon doors, and letting looſe the other priſoners, dragged Captain Porteus to the raſs-Market, hung him up on a dyer's poſt, and diſperſedthemſelves, in perfect tranquillity, to their reſpective places of reſidence.

The principal authors of this enormous outrage were concealed from the vengeful enquiries of Government, by the favour of their fellow-citizens; and even they who were moſt operative in carrying the threats of the populace into execution, found, for a while, that countenance from thoſe who were aſſociated with them in purpoſe, though not in actions, which all partakers in guilt are wont to ſhew to one another, while the fury that urged them to the commiſſion of crimes remains unabated. But the tide of popular rage ſubſided, with the hoſtile ſearches of Adminiſtration, and Captain Porteus began to appear in the light of an unfortunate Officer, who, conſidering himſelf under an obligation to ſupport Executive Government, to ſave his men from the increaſing and alarming fury of the multitude, yielded with reluctance, to the neceſſity of preventing the effects of confirmed revolt and rebellion, by a timely example of that danger which attended an open reſiſtance of eſtabliſhed authority. The raſh men who *did the deed*, excluded from the ſympathy and approbation of their former abettors, proved how natural it is for mankind to judge of themſelves, according to the opinions entertained of them by others, and by what powerful hands the Father of Mankind has reſtrained them from the ſhedding of blood. They now felt a degree of ſhame and remorſe, and ſought to eſcape the eyes of their acquaintance, by travelling into foreign parts, or in the obſcurity of the Engliſh Metropolis. Some of theſe unhappy men, with their own hands, put

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an end to their exiſtence; and others took ſhelter, where they ought, in repentance and religious devotion. But he, who performed the laſt office of the Executioner, endeavoured, with various ſucceſs, to brave the rebukes of the judge within, by aſſociating with buffoons and vagabonds, who, by a ſmattering of learning, and common-place ſophiſms and jokes, endeavoured to confound all diſtinctions between vice and virtue. He was ſubmiſſive even to abject humiliation to his ſuperiors; but gave vent to the natural turbulence of his mind in inſolence towards the poor and helpleſs. Having daringly violated the laws of ſociety, he attached himſelf chiefly to a man who, at one period of his life, it is ſaid, had exerciſed the vocation of a robber; and he was obſerved to delight, on all occaſions, in fomenting diſcord, aggravating what was gloomy, and predicting what was dreadful. In his gait he was ſometimes quick, ſometimes ſlow. Now he would give vent to the inward ſtorm that raged in his breaſt, by bellowing with great vociferation againſt any perſon he deemed either not capable, or not inclined to retort his abuſe: and now he would be ſunk in profound melancholy and ſilence. His manner, in ſhort, was unequal and violent, and there was ſomething in his countenance, during the whole courſe of his life, which, had one been ſearching for an Executioner, amongſt a thouſand bye-ſtanders, would have ſaid, at once, this is the man!

Such are the obſervations that have been made on the character and the fate of the men who were moſt actively concerned in the murder of Captain Porteus; whoſe ſtory, though not ſo intereſting as that of thoſe who have aſſaſſinated Princes and Kings, is yet, in a moral view, equally inſtructive: ſince it ſhews that there is no change of ſituation or place, that not the *civium ardor prava jubentium*, nor all the opiates of either ſceptical or convivial ſociety, can ſecure the man who has unfortunately been guilty of blood, from the ſtings of Conſcience, that impartial reviewer, and inexorable judge of human thoughts, words, and actions.

Having ſpent a week at Edinburgh, where we were entertained with great elegance, as well as hoſpitality, we purſued our journey ſouthward, and on the 5th of Auguſt, paſſed through Dalkeith, where the Duke of Buccleugh has an elegant ſeat, and where there is a great deal of fine old timber. This being a very bad day, we had little opportunity of ſeeing the country around us. As far as I could diſcern, the land, for eight miles, is well cultivated. Beyond this diſtance, for a courſe of twenty-five miles, till you get near Kelſo, the country, far and wide on either hand, is barren, bleak, and thinly inhabited. Yet, from a cultivated ſpot here and there, covered with luxuriant crops of oats, wheat, and other grain, it is apparent that this wildneſs is not owing to any natural ſterility in the ſoil, but to the want of culture. And this want of culture, again, is evidently

evidently to be traced to the partition of this large tract of land among a few great land-proprietors, the Duke of Buccleugh, Lord Douglas, the Earl of Lauderdale, the Duke of Roxburgh, &c. together with thoſe deteſtable Entails, which had their origin in Gothic ignorance and pride, and which continue even to increaſe, and threaten to withdraw and lock up from commerce, the whole landed property in Scotland.

Is it neceſſary, at this time of day, to ſhew the advantages ariſing from the convertibility of money into land, and of land into money? or the population, wealth, and comfort that ſpring from an equal diviſion of land among a great number of independent cultivators? How many millions are maintained by agricultural labour in China? How many in India, when the lands of the Ryots were not, any more than thoſe of the Zemindars, to bealienated from their families, while they fulfilled the conditions on which they held them? The Conſuls and Dictators of Old Rome, had no more than a few acres to their ſhare; but as the land in which they lived was fruitful, and judiciouſly divided into ſmall parcels (ſmall according to our eſtimation of farms, though large enough to maintain induſtrious families) it ſupported, though only a ſmall part of Italy, a more numerous people than the whole of that peninſula, under its preſent management, is able to bear. It is impoſſible to account, without a ſtanding miracle, for the vaſt multitudes which

which the Land of Canaan once ſupported, without the aid of commerce, a land rugged, and of no great extent, on any other ground, than that of great induſtry exerciſed in ſmall farms. But there is no need, on the preſent ſubject, to have recourſe to remote times and diſtant countries. Compare the ſtate of the lands that are entailed with that of ſuch as are free. In theſe, villages and towns are built, and commerce, multiplying proprietors, and independent cultivators of the ſoil, diffuſes for miles around, beauty, covenience, and comfort: whereas on thoſe, ſome of which comprehend an extent of fifteen or twenty miles, there is ſcarcely any other commerce to be perceived than that which is carried on by hawkers and pedlars: a melancholy waſte is preſented to the eye of the traveller: vegetation ſickens; and the apearance of man and beaſt arraigns the folly, as well as the arrogance of the lordly poſſeſſor, and the inattention of a heedleſs legiſlature.

It has been juſtly obſerved, that individuals, in the management of their concerns, exerciſe a wiſer economy than communities of men. Would the proprietor of a large eſtate not only grant leaſes to his tenants for life, and even in perpetuity, but alſo indulge them in the arrogant and almoſt impious attempt to ſecure the excluſive poſſeſſion of their farms to their neareſt kindred throughout all ſucceſſive generations? Perhaps to grant leaſes for life, and even in perpetuity, as has been done by the King, and

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ſome of the chief nobility in Denmark, might be as judicious as it is liberal policy. But, as the conditions of ſuch leaſes are not fixed and permanent, but variable and contingent; as the rents are paid in kind, and the landlord has ſtill an intereſt and a right, not only in the actual, but what may be called the improveable value of the ſoil; would he not be a madman to preclude his eſtate from the advantage of that ſuperior cultivation which new purchaſers, with larger capitals, more knowledge, and more extended views than thoſe of the old tenants, muſt, in the progreſs of commerce and arts beſtow? Shall ſpacious tracts of waſte land, and marſhes, be doomed to perpetual ſterility; and the poor, from the unſkillfulneſs of thoſe that employ them, to unproductive labour, in order to gratify barbarian ignorance and pride? Shall this ignorance and pride be permitted to confine in the torpid bands of entail one eſtate after another? And an excluſive right of improving the ſoil to accumulate in the hands of a ſmall part of the community, until a few great proprietors, ſitting with folded arms, like the Gods of Epicurus, on their ſolitary thrones, ſhall look down in triumph on the induſtrious part of their fellow-citizens, excluded like vagabond Jews from all ſhare, and poſſibility of ſharing the ſoil, deſtined by the common parent as a fund for common labour, and common ſubſiſtence? The eye of legiſlative wiſdom ſhould mark well the exceſſive injuſtice of ſuch extravagant ambition; and the ſupreme power of the State ſhould repreſs a

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tyrannical encroachment at once on the rights of government, and thoſe of the people: of government, who have a right to controul whatever oppoſes itſelf to the general ſecurity and welfare; of the people, who have a claim to whatever comfort and independence can reſult from political regulation. Let private rights be preſerved; let the landholder provide for his growing wants by labouring, letting, or diſpoſing of his land to the beſt bidder. But there is another party concerned in all this;—the State, that muſt provide for the increaſing exigencies of the Public, by increaſing population and wealth; by providing a growing fund to ſupport growing taxes.

But in a caſe ſo plain reaſoning is quite ſuperfluous. It is indeed one of thoſe caſes which is ſo clear as to reject the aid of argument, and to ſuffer a ſhade of obſcurity by every attempt to illuſtration. There is not a more neceſſary connexion between the breaking, opening, and pulveriſing of the ſoil, and the admiſſion thereinto of the genial influences of Heaven, than there is between agricultural improvement, and, by the breaking of entails, the reduction of the land within the compaſs of honeſt induſtry.

The pernicious tendency of Scottiſh entails is well exemplified by a recent matter of fact. A very conſiderable eſtate on the maritime coaſt of Argyleſhire, on which very great

great improvements had been begun by the proprietor, through various accidents was brought to the market. A gentleman wiſhed to purchaſe it, whoſe ideas, in uniſon with thoſe of the old proprietor, would have induced him to carry on the improvements begun, to greater and greater perfection. He offered a reaſonable price: but he was outbid by a nobleman who had juſt ſucceeded to an entailed eſtate, and to a large ſum of money to be laid out in the purchaſe of more land, which was alſo to be entailed. Thus the eſtate in Argyleſhire, that was in ſo fair a train of cultivation, was blaſted by an icy union with an eſtate of entail; and thus a rapid progreſs is made in the inhuman baſeneſs of locking up the land of Scotland in the hands of a few great proprietors, who are only a kind of ſtewards for poſterity, and who have as little inducement to improve their eſtates themſelves, as power to admit of their improvement by others.

If a fondneſs for entails has become epidemical among our northern neighbours; if the natural deſire of a poſthumous exiſtence in the minds of future generations has in them degenerated into inſanity; it will be an act of kindneſs, on the part of the Britiſh Legiſlature, to the individuals who ſuffer by their madneſs, as well as a ſervice to the Public, to bring a remedy for their diſtemper: for ſuch this hydropical hunger and thirſt after the earth; this *Gaio-Mania* may be juſtly conſidered.

Sound policy dictates not only the abolition of entails, but a reduction in the extent of immoderate farms, the very worſt ſpecies of monopoly. Were the whole human race placed by their Creator on the earth, at one inſtant, it is plain that each individual would have a right to an equal ſhare in the ſoil, or, at leaſt to as much as he could ſubdue and improve by his labour, without encroaching on the labours of others. The actual ſtate of ſociety, and the deſtiny of mankind to mutual intercourſe, and progreſſive improvement, renders it equally impoſſible and uneligible to revert to this ſtate of nature. Every man has a right, by municipal law, to his eſtate, whether he has been the original improver himſelf, or ſucceeded to it, or purchaſed it from the heirs or aſſignees of ſuch improver. But, beſides the original, and the improved, there is a contingent and improveable value in land: or a farther value which it may ſtill receive, over and above the expence of purchaſing or improving it; and this contingent or improveable value muſt be conſidered, on the principles of natural law, and of good and juſt government, to belong, or to be under the controul, and at the diſpoſal of the community. And it is the duty of all Legiſlators to manage this public fund of poſſible and contingent value to the greateſt and moſt general good or advantage. But the happineſs of men and nations is, on the whole, proportionable to their virtue; and virtue, with health and population, flouriſhes more amidſt rural haunts and occupation, than in the crowded city;

city: therefore, it is political wiſdom to multiply huſbandmen, independent cultivators of the ſoil, as much as poſſible.

Compare the civil ſtate of the immenſe farm, with what it was when the ſame tract of land was parted among a dozen or more poſſeſſors who cultivated the land with their own hands, in the vigour of life, and in their advanced years directed the labours of their ſons and daughters. If they laboured, they laboured for themſelves: for all that remained, after paying the rent, was their own. This independency, this degree of liberty, nouriſhed induſtry, and induſtry provided conveniency and comfort. They lived together under one roof; together they ſhared in the labours of the field; together they enjoyed the wholeſome repaſt; and together adored, in private, as well as public and ſocial worſhip, the benign and bountiful giver of all good:—Filial, paternal, and fraternal affection was nouriſhed; and innocence was preſerved. Conſcious independence mingled ſecurity and ſatisfaction with a degree of decent ſelf-eſteem, and ſincere religion dignified and exalted the ſoul. How changed this happy ſcene! Clumps of antient trees, ſeen here and there, amidſt foreſts and paſture fields, denote the place where a village or hamlet once ſtood. The huſbandman, with his aged partner, if yet in life, pines in poverty in ſome narrow cell, in a town, and thinks with regret on the paſt joys of the country.

Their ſons and daughters have become the ſervants, the day-labourers of their rich neighbour, who has removed the antient land-marks, added farm to farm, raſed the farm-ſteads of the old tenantry to the ground, ſave here and there a place for the habitation of his working people, and built an elegant manſion, where his lady entertains her gueſts from town, with cards, balls, and coſtly feaſts. The poor cottagers, ſuch is the monopolizing rage of their maſters! are left without one ridge of land to feed a cow for giving milk to their children: and, if they venture to keep a pig or a hen, they do it at their peril; for, if theſe animals ſtir one inch from their crib, they treſpaſs on the ground of the gentleman farmer, and become fair game to young maſter, and his miſchievous companions. The poor cottagers, humbled at length in their minds as in their ſituations, and mixed with mere mercenaries of the loweſt claſs, gradually acquire the ſentiments, the habits, the vices of ſlaves. They neglect their perſons, they graſp at low gratifications, and forgetting the church, conſider Sundays and other holidays, only as ſo many intervals of eaſe.

Is not the monopolization of land, then, an evil that demands the interference of the Legiſlature? It certainly does, if population, virtue, and happineſs are to be preferred to depopulation, vice, and miſery. There are many ways of reſtraining monopolization of land, without invading the property, or doing the ſmalleſt injury to the land-

landholder: nay, the reſtraint of monopolization, and the increaſe of independent cultivators of land, would redound exceedingly to the landholders advantage. A law might be enacted for limiting the extent of farms, as in the Auſtrian Netherlands: or, if this ſhould be thought improper, and that new taxes are yet to be raiſed, what ſubjects of taxation can be more productive, or what more juſtly liable to an impoſt, than large farms and ſhort leaſes? A tax might be impoſed on barren and uncultivated lands, and ſo regulated, as to engage the proprietor either to cultivate them himſelf, or to reſign them to the community for general diſtribution. But I pretend not to treat, though I moſt heartily recommend attention to this important ſubject. I ſhall only obſerve in general, that many occaſions will occur when ſuch regulations may be introduced, even under colour of other objects, as may tend effectually, though by remote and indirect influence, to promote the independence of the plough.—To watch, and if poſſible to create ſuch occaſions, and to deviſe ſuch regulations, is among the nobleſt efforts of genius, and legiſlative wiſdom.

With regard to entails, they ſhould be entirely aboliſhed, as moſt odious abominations.

Few Princes in any country, and perhaps none in England, ever ſhewed more political ſagacity than Henry VII. This wiſe King, who enabled his nobles to break through

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their entails, provided alſo, by a very juſt and judicious law, for the ſupport and welfare of the middling people. Lord Bacon, in his excellent hiſtory of Henry VII. ſays, " inclo- " ſures at that time (the fourth or fifth year of the reign of " Henry) began to be more frequent; and arable lands, " which could not be manured without people and families, " were turned into paſture. This, it was then thought, " bred a decay of people, towns, churches, and tithes. It " was therefore enacted, that all houſes of huſbandry that " were uſed with twenty acres of ground, and upwards, " ſhould be maintained and kept up for ever, together " with a competent proportion of land to be uſed and oc- " cupied with them, upon pain of ſeizure of the land it- " ſelf, by the King, or Lords of the fee, as to half of the " profits, till the houſes and land were reſtored. By this " means, the houſes being kept up, did of neceſſity en- " force a dweller, and the proportion of land for occupa- " tion being kept up, did likewiſe oblige that dweller, not " to be a beggar or cottager, but a man of ſome ſubſtance, " that might keep lands and ſervants, and ſet the plow " a-going. Wherefore, it gave ſtrength to the kingdom, " to have farms of a ſtandard ſufficient to maintain an able " body of men, capable of paying taxes and ſubſidies, and " did in effect, amortize a great part of the lands of the " kingdom, unto the occupation of the huſbandry, or " middling people, of a condition between gentlemen and " peaſantry, or cottager. This eſtabliſhment increaſed alſo

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" the military power of the kingdom, ſince it is allowed by " the beſt judges in the art of war, that the ſtrength of an " army conſiſts chiefly in its infantry, or foot: and to " make good infantry, it requires men to be bred, not in a " ſervile or indigent faſhion, but a free and plentiful man- " ner. Therefore, if a ſtate run moſt to *noblemen and gentle-* " *men*, and that the huſbandmen and plow-men, be but " *as their work-folks and labourers, or elſe mere cottagers, which are* " *but houſed beggars*, you may have a good cavalry, but never " a vigorous, or ſtable band of foot."

What would King Henry VII. have ſaid to the Caledonian itch of entailing, the immoderate extenſion of ſheep walks, and that ſpirit of territorial monopolization which prevails, at the preſent moment, in both Scotland and ſome parts of England? I was very glad to find the monopolization of land condemned, even in Scotland, in different converſations, and publicly expoſed by able writers. The late Lord Kaims has written a very ſenſible little tract againſt entails; though with an air of cold indifference, which is to be acounted for only from the circumſtance, that the enormity which he attacks, has been, from his earlieſt years, familiarized to his imagination. But the moſt formidable aſſailant of territorial monopolization, and the moſt generous dvocate for the oppreſſed cottager, peaſant, and poor manufacturer, is the unknown author of " An Eſſay

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" on the Right of property in Land, with reſpect to its " foundation in the law of nature; its preſent eſtabliſh- " ment by the municipal laws of Europe; and the regula- " tions by which it might be rendered more beneficial to " the lower ranks of mankind." I hope this little book will make its way to the attention of men whoſe approbation is greater praiſe, and whoſe countenance may afford greater protection than mine. If however, it could be any ſatisfaction to the writer of it, I would aſſure him that there is at leaſt one " Engliſh landholder, from whom his ſpecu- " lations *have met* with no unfavourable reception."*

To all that has been urged in oppoſition to monopolies of land, I ſhall only add, that, correſponding to the right, is the ſtrong attachment that every man has to his native ſoil. In our political arrangements, wholly to difregard this natural deſire, may be conſidered by Platonical Philoſophers as a ſpecies of impiety. To Political Economiſts it cannot but appear to be an act of impolicy.

* This gentleman, in an introduction to his Treatiſe, ſays, " To the worthy and " humane Engliſh landholders, and more particularly to thoſe who of late years have " voluntarily granted to their tenants an abatement of rent, this ſhort Eſſay is inſcribed " by the Author, as to men whom he regards with high eſteem, and from whom he " may hope that his ſpeculations, ſhould they ever come to their knowledge, would " meet with no unfavourable reception."

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The bleak appearance of the country through which we had paſſed, ſerved to heighten the charms of Kelſo, without exception the moſt beautiful ſpot I have ſeen in Scotland. It is a well-built little town, ſituated on the banks of the Tweed, over which is an elegant bridge, juſt below the conflux of that river with the Teviot. A few miles up the river ſtands all that remains of the celebrated Abbey of Melroſe, renowned for extent of revenue, and the magnificence and charming ſymmetry of the edifice. The valley in which Melroſe is ſituated well accords with the beauty of that elegant and delicate ruin. Here the natives ſtill inherit and retain the paſtoral ſoftneſs of Caledonian manners; and the country laſſes, attired in their antient dreſs, are ſeen ſitting on the ruins of the venerable pile, chanting in nature's ſweetneſs the ſongs of Scotland, which even before the time of Queen Mary and her Italian band, as clearly appears from many written records, had rivalled thoſe of Rome.

From the bridge of Kelſo there is a moſt beautiful view of the town, and the ruins of the abbey, built by David I. the Duke of Roxburgh's elegant houſe called Fleurs, thoſe of Sir James Douglas, Sir James Pringle, Mr. Daviſon, and ſeveral other modern manſions. The country is well wooded, and highly improved. The diſtant hills, particularly the Eilden-hills, are taken into the view, and, on the whole, as delightful a proſpect is furniſhed, as I ever ſaw

any country. It is cuſtomary for the gentlemen who live near the Tweed to entertain their neighbours and friends with a Fete Champetre, which they call giving "*a kettle of* "*fiſh*." Tents or marquees are pitched near the flowery banks of the river, on ſome graſſy plain; a fire is kindled, and live ſalmon thrown into boiling kettles. The fiſh, thus prepared, is very firm, and accounted a moſt delicious food. Every thing in ſeaſon is added to furniſh a luxurious cold dinner; and wine, muſic, and dancing on the green, ſteal one day from the plodding cares, or more inſupportable languor of mortals. The ſimple ruſtics around are admitted, in due place and order, to this rural banquet; and all nature wears the countenance of joy and gladneſs. Where the Tweed forms the boundary between England and Scotland, the Engliſh gentlemen and ladies croſs the river in boats to attend the annual feaſt of their Scottiſh neighbours; and the Scottiſh ladies and gentlemen, in like manner, pay due reſpect, on ſimilar occaſions, to their neighbours in England. How different this humane and happy intercourſe from the meetings of the Scots and Engliſh in former times, whether accidental, or for the expreſs purpoſe of ſettling diſputes!

I was informed, that the towns and villages on the borders of Scotland, were much more populous in former times than the preſent. The town and pariſh of Jedburgh, for inſtance, as appears from the pariſh regiſter, contained,

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at the beginning of the preſent Century, from eight to ten thouſand ſouls. Their preſent population does not exceed three thouſand. The account given of this difference ſeems juſt. During the period of an hundred years that intervened between the union of the Crowns, and that of the Parliaments of England and Scotland, there was a double ſmuggling of Engliſh articles into Scotland, and of Scotch Articles into England. This ſmuggling trade nouriſhed on the borders a degree of wealth and population that has not, ſince that period, been nearly equalled: and, to ſhew the intimate connection between the monied and landed intereſt, the price of Land, and the rent of Farms in the pariſh of Jedburgh, and other places near the Engliſh border, was almoſt as high as it is at preſent. At this time there was a great deal of Engliſh wool carried to the port of Leith, and thence exported to other Countries. The local diſadvantages that have ariſen from the Union to the borders, are nobly compenſated by the general benefits which have been derived from that great meaſure to both the Scotch and the Engliſh Nations.

In the ſouthern parts of Scotland we have a ſtriking proof of the conſanguinity, or common deſcent, of the Scots and Welch, or antient Britons. High hills in both Wales and the ſouth of Scotland are deſigned by the name of PENNS. The word *Penn* is, no doubt, the ſame with Benn, the Celtic word for mountain, affixed to almoſt all

the high hills in Scotland. Many other names of natural objects, in the ſoutherly diſtricts of Scotland, and the moſt northerly of England, point, in like manner, to a period when thoſe parts were poſſeſſed by a people of Celtic origin.

The proſpect from Kelſo Bridge, though beautiful, is, however, but a miniature picture. For a ſpace of two miles either way from this ſpot, brings you into an open country again; not indeed without its beauties, but too naked for the imagination: however, much pains have been taken lately to cultivate this part of the country, which produces a great quantity of corn; many incloſures are alſo made of thorn, but thoſe hedges are not yet grown high enough to afford ſhelter. Here alſo are numerous plantations, though only in an infant ſtate. I ſee nothing to prevent the banks of the Tweed from becoming in time as beautiful as the banks of the Thames.

Thurſday, the 11th of Auguſt, we leave Kelſo, and ride by the ſide of the Tweed to Coldſtream, croſs an elegant bridge of five arches, and enter England: and here it is well worthy of remark, that all the bridges in Scotland are built with much more taſte and elegance, than any in England. The ſtone of which they are generally conſtructed is of a brown colour, and appears to be very durable: indeed the latter quality ſeems to be abſolutely neceſſary,

neceſſary; for all the rivers in Scotland, as in all mountainous countries, are ſubject to great floods, and run with violent rapidity, inſomuch that ſome of the bridges have circular openings between each arch, to diſcharge the water when the arches are full.

Paſs Flouden Field, where the Scots, headed by their King, James IV. in perſon, ſuffered a moſt diſaſtrous overthrow from the Engliſh, commanded by the Earl of Surrey.

The muſical genius of Scotland expreſſed the moans of the nation in the deeply plaintive notes of *The Flowers of the Foreſt*. On the battle of Flouden, another ballad was alſo compoſed, of another ſtrain, in praiſe of the *ſouters* (ſhoemakers) of Selkirk, and in ridicule of the Earl of Hume. When the Scottiſh army advanced ſouthward towards the borders of England, a band of eighty *ſouters* or *ſouteurs*, joined the royal army, under the conduct of the Town-Clerk of Selkirk. They fought with great bravery, and were moſtly cut off. A few who eſcaped, found, on their return, in the foreſt of Lady-Wood-Edge, the wife of one of their brethren, lying dead, and her child ſucking her breaſt. The Town of Selkirk, from this circumſtance, obtained for their arms, a woman ſitting upon a ſarcophagus, holding a child in her arms; in the back ground, a wood; and, on the ſarcophagus, the arms of Scotland.

Millfield

Millfield Plain, where the battle of Flouden was fought, extends about five miles each way, and is entirely ſurrounded by barren mountains, the Cheviot Hills forming the ſouthern boundary. Paſs on to Wollerhaugh-head, a ſmall poor town: from Woller to Alnwick, the road goes round the Cheviot Hills, through a wild and uncultivated country.

At Alnwick is the Duke of Northumberland's Caſtle, a very large pile of building, in the ſhape of an octagon, the inner court forming a circle. In this part of the caſtle are the rooms for ſtate and bed-chambers. The library is a large and elegant apartment, and the chapel adjoining to it is fitted up entirely in the Gothic ſtyle, an humble imitation of that order of architecture. The chapel is lighted by a large window, painted with great taſte: all the rooms in the caſtle, three of which are very ſpacious and elegant, are, like the chapel, fitted in the Gothic ſtyle. The ſervants apartments, and all the offices, are diſtinct from the caſtle, but all in the ſame ſtyle of architecture. On the battlements are a great number of ſtatues of warriors, in various attitudes of defence, apparently as large as life, which makes it appear as if an enemy was ſtorming it. On the right of the inner gate-way is ſtill to be be ſeen a dungeon, with an iron grate, the Gothic emblem of lawleſs will and arbitrary power.

The grounds round Alnwick are very extenſive, reaching all

all the way to the ſea, on the one hand; and up the river into the hills on the weſt and north, on the other; but moſt of the improvements are modern. Great part of the caſtle has been built or rebuilt by the preſent Duke. All the plantations are very young; none of the trees ſeem to bear the appearance of more than forty years.

The town of Alnwick is not very extenſive, but neat, and well built: ſome of the houſes are very antient, others modern and elegant. The eaſt and weſt gates are very antient, and towards the north, the Duke has lately built an elegant gate-way, with a handſome tower upon it, in the Gothic ſtyle. This tower was intended to have bells placed in it, but the ſtructure was found to be too ſlight. The church is a ſpacious and elegant building.

Were the Dukes of Northumberland, in theſe peaceable times, like their neighbour the Duke of Bridgewater, to exerciſe the ſame ardour in the promotion of arts and commerce, which their anceſtors, in turbulent times, diſplayed in arms, Alnwick and the adjacent country might be rendered as famous for manufactures as it was formerly renowned for bloody battles. There is not in any part of Britain, better wool than that which is produced in the hilly tracts in the ſouth of Scotland, and the north of England. This circumſtance, with abundance of fuel, and vicinity to the ſea, is ſufficient to prove that poſition.

In

In the times of the Heptarchy, before the different kingdoms of which England originally conſiſted, were united in one, that of Northumberland extended from the Tweed to the Humber, and comprehended, beſides the county of that name, Cumberland, Weſtmoreland, the whole of Yorkſhire, Lancaſhire, and the Biſhopric of Durham. The capital of this kingdom was York, a town equally famous during the Roman, the Saxon, and the Norman æra. It is from this laſt period that we are enabled to account for ſome cuſtoms that prevail among the inhabitants, and for that particular dialect, which diſtinguiſhes a Yorkſhireman and Northumbrian, including under that name the inhabitants of Weſtmoreland and Cumberland, from all others in this kingdom.

From hiſtory, as well as from ſimilarity of features, cuſtoms and language, it is evident that the Northern inhabitants of England, and the Lowland Scots were originally the ſame people, being both deſcendants from the nations on the ſhores of the Baltic; but chiefly from the Danes and the Norwegians. And the circumſtance of their being now under the ſame Government, cannot fail to reſtore their union, and to render it every day more and more complete.

Of the Daniſh and Norwegian remains in the antient kingdom of Northumberland, we have a very ſtriking inſtance, in the extraordinary care and attachment of the

Northumbrians

Northumbrians and Yorkſhire men to their horſes. The Norwegians and Icelanders treat their horſes not only with the utmoſt care, but with a degree of affection. It was in conformity with the genius of his countrymen, that John Eriſchen, an Icelandic Gentleman, wrote a Treatiſe, *De Philippia Veterum*; or, the Love of the Ancients for their Horſes, printed at Copenhagen, 1757. Of words the ſame in the Norwegian and Icelandic language, and in that of the Lowland Scots, and Northern Engliſh, there are examples without number. The guttural pronunciation of Northumberland is eminently Daniſh.

It appears that, in former times, much emulation and great animoſities prevailed between the people of England living on the South, and thoſe living on the North ſide of the River Trent. The famous Roger Aſchem, who was Preceptor to Queen Elizabeth, and was a North Trentian, condeſcended to write a book, to vindicate the dignity of the northern counties in England from the abuſe of their ſouthern neighbours. It is to that divided ſtate of the country, in former times, that we are to trace the practice of appointing certain Officers on this ſide, and beyond Trent.——We are ſomewhat at a loſs, at this day, to account for the diſputes and hoſtilities that prevailed ſo long between the people to the ſouth and the north of that river. The time will, no doubt, come, when men ſhall, in like manner, wonder at the animoſities that ſtill take place, in

ſome degree, among the vulgar, on this ſide, and beyond the Tweed.

I ſhall here attempt to exhibit the bold outline or contour of the highly diverſified Country over which we have travelled; a kind of Geographical Anatomy of Scotland; the great lineaments that have been traced on the face of the land by the hand of Nature, antecedently to all cultivation, and the caſual diviſions of provinces, ſhires, ſtewarties, pariſhes, and other minuter diſtinctions. But, as it is only a ſmall portion of this extenſive and varied ſcene that the eye can take in at one view, we muſt be content with a very general deſcription. In order to catch the moſt prominent features of ſo various and vaſt an object, we muſt take our ſtand at a diſtance: we muſt loſe ſight of particular parts, and yield up our minds to the general impreſſion that reſults from the whole. In ſo wide a field, he who ſhould attempt to deſcribe every thing, would, in fact, deſcribe nothing. An endleſs repetition of hills, glens, rivers, bays, creeks, and other minutiæ, would divert the attention from the main object. Viſtas muſt be cut through the wood, leſt we loſe ourſelves amidſt its endleſs receſſes, and the multitude of its ſhrubs and trees. And, as ſuch Viſtas open new proſpects beyond the foreſt in which we wander, ſo in viewing the face of a country, we riſe by abſtraction to a point of elevation, from whence we look down on mountains, vales, and ſeas, as compo-

nent

nent parts of one magnificent object. We have a glimmering proſpect of the highways, if I may be allowed this metaphor, by which Nature carries on, and unites her operations.

Though the barriers that divided the Engliſh and Scottiſh Nations, when in a ſtate of mutual hoſtility, were, the Solway Frith, the Cheviot Hills, and the Tweed; viewing things on a grander ſcale, and independently of the viciſſitudes of human affairs, we find a more natural as well as nobler boundary between South and North Britain, in the iſthmus that extends from the weſt at Carliſle to the eaſt at New-Caſtle. Here, the land extending to the north of Ireland, and thoſe great promontories that ſhelter the inland parts of England, lying in the ſame longitude, the atmoſphere, under the immediate influence of the winds that blow ftom the Atlantic and German Oceans, is keen and piercing, and the ſame as that of Scotland: the ſame alſo, the ſeaſons, ſoil, and natural productions. The land acroſs this iſthmus, is, on the whole, level, though it riſes here and there, eſpecially towards the centre, into unequal, broken ground, and craggy precipices, with their fronts towards the north; along the tops of which, a wall of defence againſt the incurſions of the northern Barbarians was extended by the Roman Emperors, Adrian and Severus. From hence the ground gradually riſes to the Cheviot Hills, which are continued in a chain of mountains,

in a ſouth-weſtward direction, to the bay of Glen-Luce and Loch-Ryan in Galloway. Their ſteepeſt front or face, eſpecially towards the eaſt, where they form part of the boundary between England and Scotland, like that of the craggy precipices juſt mentioned, looks more towards the north than the ſouth. In the middle, and towards the Weſt, they lie wholly in Scotland. From their centre, where they are higheſt, and where they are commonly called the Lowthers or Lauders, flows the Tweed, the Annan, the Nith, and the Clyde, the Rivers that water and divide the ſouthern parts of Scotland.

From this lofty ridge an inferior range of hills branches off in an eaſterly direction, and ſtretching by Soutra and Lammermuir, whoſe names they aſſume, terminates at St. Abb's Head, the ſouthern extremity of the Frith of Forth. Between that lofty and this lower range of hills, lie the ſpacious, and for the moſt part fertile tracts of land that are watered by the river, and the tributary ſtreams of the Tweed.

From the Cheviot, with the Lammermuir and Soutra Hills northward, to the Grampian Mountains, lie the greater part of what are commonly called the Lowlands of Scotland; forming a vaſt plain which interſects the whole Iſland, and may, and by ſome writers, agreeably to a language at one period general in Scotland, has been called

called Strathmoir, or the Great Strath. The ſtrath, or plain, now properly called Strathmoir, is that part of this ſpacious zone which is bounded on the weſt by the Tay, and on the eaſt by the ocean. This plain is deeply indented by oppoſite ſeas. And here, acroſs the iſthmus from the Frith of Forth to that of Clyde, ran the wall built by the Roman General Agricola, and afterwards repaired and fortified by Lollius Urbicus, the Roman General, and Lord Lieutenant of England, under the Emperor Antoninus. This zone, or tract of land, bounded, as has been obſerved, on the ſouth by the Cheviot, with the Soutra and Lammermuir Hills, and on the north by the Grampians, though in reſpect to the mountainous part of Scotland it be low and level, yet contains two inferior ranges. The firſt, or the moſt ſoutherly of theſe, is called the Pentland Hills, reaching nearly from the Frith of the Forth to the courſe of the Clyde, or Clydeſdale, the roots of the hills approaching within five or ſix miles of the Forth on the one hand, and of the Clyde on the other. The ſecond and moſt northerly of thoſe inferior ranges, parallel to the Cheviot on the one hand, and the Grampian Hills on the other, is co-extended with theſe from ſea to ſea, and ſubdivided into three branches or ſections. The moſt eaſterly of theſe ſections commences from thoſe acclivities and hills that riſe on the northern banks of the Ern in Perthſhire, croſs the Tay below Perth, and from the Sidley Hills, where it riſes to its greateſt height, tapers off into a plain towards the place

where

where the Tay falls into the ocean. The centrical range is the Ochills, reaching from Stirling, their weſtern extremity, in a north eaſterly direction, till they die away in the Bay of St. Andrews. The weſterly range, or ſection, is, the Kilſyth and Campſey Hills, which, branching off from the Ochills, from which they are ſeparated only by the Forth near Stirling, terminate not far from Dunbarton.

Beſides theſe ranges, here and there ſtands a ſolitary hill, but, in general, nearer to the next range of hills than to the centre of the adjacent-plain. Thus, for example, the Lomonts in Fifeſhire are ſituated within two miles of the Ochills: and Dunſinnane ſtands nearer to the Sidleys than the Grampians.

The Grampians begin near Dunbarton on the north ſide of the Clyde, and extend in a north-eaſterly direction to the German ocean on the ſouth ſide of the river Dee. This remarkable aſſemblage of hills and mountains is alſo continued on the north of the Dee, and upon the heads of the river Don, as far as the mountains called Cairn-Goram, Ben Avon, and even to Belrinnes, on the ſouth ſide of the river Spey. Farther to the eaſtward in Aberdeenſhire, the Grampians ſhoot off a ſpur or branch which includes, among others, the hills of Tyyerbagger, and Benachee, and dies away in the hills of Fowd-land, near to the ſource of the river

river Ythan. A branch of the Grampians is alſo continued from Benachee by the top of Noth, on the head of the river Diveron, to Belrinnes above-mentioned.

The largeſt tract of low land in all Scotland extends from the town of Aberdeen along the coaſts of Aberdeenſhire, Bamff, and Murray, and all the ſouth ſide of the Murray Frith to the town of Inverneſs. In this extended plain, as in the Great Strath, ſouth of the Grampians, there are ſome ſolitary hills, as Mormont in Buchan, the Bin-hill of Cullen, and the Knock of Strathiſla in Banffſhire.

From the river Clyde, near Dunbarton, through the midland region of Scotland, along the various ſources of the Forth, the Tay, the Dee, the Spey, and the other rivers that ſupply the Murray Frith, even to Cape Wrath, and from thence, along the weſtern coaſt of Scotland, again to the Clyde, the country is bold, abrupt, and ſublime, conſiſting in mountains, except where it is cut, as it were, and excavated into glens, bays of land, chains of lakes and friths, which chains and friths, as well as the general courſe of the hills and mountains, lie moſtly from ſouth-weſt to north-eaſt.

Of all thoſe chains of friths, lakes, and rivers which in this country are ſo numerous, there is one pre-eminent above the reſt, and which claims particular attention for

its beauty, grandeur, and importance. It is that which extends from Inverneſs on the Murray Frith, in a ſouth-weſterly direction, almoſt in a ſtraight line to that corner of the Iſle of Mull, which is oppoſite to Oban. It runs nearly parallel to the ſouthern range of the Grampians above-mentioned, and divides this rugged and mountainous country, very nearly into two equal parts. Through the whole of its extent you have either an arm of the ſea, a navigable lake, or a river, except in one ſpot of about two miles in length, the bottom of which is perfectly plain, and only a few feet higher than the water of the lakes on the eaſt and weſt. But the mountains on either hand ſeem to reach the clouds: as in reality they continue to do for the whole length of this extraordinary hollow-way, where the cataracts and water-falls, particularly on both ſides of Loch-Neſs, are pictureſque and romantic beyond the power of expreſſion. This magnificent opening from ſea to ſea is very properly called Glenmoir.

Among ſeveral other ſimilar chains of lakes and rivers, I ſhall juſt mention another, which is linked and united towards the eaſt, with that which has been now deſcribed, in the Murray Frith. It extends from thence, through Dornoch Frith, north-weſt to Loch-Laxford, on the weſt coaſt of the Shire of Sutherland: the land of which county, and a ſtill greater portion of that of Caithneſs, is plain.

Of

Of the Highlands of Scotland, of which I have thus attempted to give a general ſketch, three Diſtricts, on account of the ſingularity of their appearance, demand a particular deſcription. Theſe are, Cowall, in Argyleſhire; the Moor of Rannach, in Perthſhire; and a tract of land on the weſtern coaſt of the Shire of Roſs.

The Mountains of Cowall, rugged and abrupt, in a rugged and abrupt country, riſe ſuddenly from their baſes to their ſummits, and are fantaſtically interſperſed among one another, as by a mighty whirlwind: while the glens between them reſemble a number of pits, deep in proportion to the height of the natural walls that ſurround and form them. Hence the diſtrict of Cowall is humorouſly called Argyle's Bowling Green.

The Moor of Rannach, like the Table Land at the Cape of Good Hope, to compare ſmall things with great, and the Mahratta Country, in the Peninſula of Hindoſtan, is an elevated plain, twenty miles every way, from the Hills of Glen Lyon, in the centre of Scotland, to Benneviſh, in Lochaber, wholly uncultivated and uninhabited.

The tract to which I allude in Roſsſhire, including part of Coygach, Aſſynt, and Eyderachoilis, is twenty-four miles in length, and from eight to ten in breadth. This tract, though it appertain to the Highland, or mountainous

country, is yet diſtinguiſhed therefrom by the following circumſtances: though lower, it is more broken and rugged than the other parts of the Highlands. It looks as if hundreds of mountains had been daſhed into thouſands of fragments, ſcattered about on a vaſt plain. Rocks after rocks, which recall to the mind the fabulous wars of the giants, exhibit indiſputable traces of ſome great convulſion of nature, which has certainly happened, although in ages ſo remote, as to be recorded only in thoſe marks which we every where find of violence and deſtruction. Here and there, amidſt ſolitary and precipitous craggs, a miſerable hut is ſeen, and frequent pools of water. In ſuch of the intervening ſpaces as are impervious to the plough, the poor native digs the ſoil with his mattock, that he may raiſe a few potatoes and ſome other vegetables, or gathers the ſhort and ſcanty graſs with his cycle, or hook. But in compenſation for this ſterility of the land, the ſea, far indented at frequent and almoſt regular intervals, offers to the induſtry of the fiſherman great abundance and variety of fiſh: while both the ſea, and frequent lakes and pools of water, breed wild-fowl of various kinds, in the greateſt plenty. On this part of the Scottiſh ſhore, we recognize the character that is given of the Britiſh coaſt by the hiſtorian Tacitus, in his life of Agricola. "Nuſquam latius "dominari mare, multum fluminum huc atque illuc ferri, "nec litore tenus adcreſcere aut reſorberi, ſed influere pe-

"nitus

" nitus atque ambire, etiam jugis atque montibus inſeri " velut in ſuo."

As we meet, on the weſtern ſide of this country, with a great plain beſtrewed with fragments of hills, ſo, on the eaſtern we find a phenomenon of a contrary but not leſs ſingular nature. At Inverneſs, a Spectator of the Country around is firſt and moſt forcibly ſtruck with an enormous and almoſt inſulated maſs of earth, apparently at no great diſtance, but its ſummit not nearer then fifteen miles, called, from the impreſſion it makes on the mind, BEN-FOUAISCH, or the Hill of awful Countenance. This mountain, though in a hilly country, riſes ſo far above the neighbouring hills as to leave them, to appearance, in a plain. It is not in the conical and uſual ſhape of a hill, but of an oblong form, bearing ſome reſemblance to a great rick of hay; its ſummit, which is not craggy, but earthy, and covered with moſs, being flattened into a plain of three miles from eaſt to weſt, and half a mile in breadth. The moſt precipitous front of Ben-Fouaiſch, like that of moſt hills and mountains in Scotland, looks towards the weſt. This immenſe and inſulated maſs of earth is, perhaps, ſtill fitter for the purpoſe of aſcertaining the attraction of mountains then Sehallion.

We meet every where with ſuch craggs as thoſe on the weſtern coaſt of Roſs-ſhire in the vallies that wind amidſt

the tremendous precipices of the Alps and the Pyrenees, at the bottom of the Table Land, already mentioned, at the Cape of Good Hope, and other mountains from which they have evidently been ſeparated. But, where are the mountains from which the craggy maſſes that beſtrew and almoſt fill this tract in Roſsſhire have fallen? or, if theſe are the remains and wrecks of ſolid hills, what force has ſplit theſe hills aſunder? To account for this bold irregularity and confuſion, is not a leſs difficult problem than to ſolve that wonderful phenomenon of an oppoſite kind; the Giants Cauſeway of Ireland, terminated by the Baſaltic Columns of Staffa. Here therefore I ſhall make a pauſe. It is as little in my intention as in my power to enter into any Theory of the Earth; for which, were my talents equal to the taſk, the world is perhaps too young, or at leaſt the hiſtory of the world too recent and imperfect.

Another appearance of a very ſingular nature, is exhibited in a chain of rocks, or rather a ſingle rock, extending through the whole length of Strathmore, from ſouth-weſt to north-eaſt, parallel with the Grampians, ſometimes riſing, five, ten, and where it is higheſt, from 30 to 40 feet above the ground, at others ſloping under it, and at others bruſhing its ſurface. It is higheſt above the ſurface of the earth, where the plane through which it runs is higheſt above the level of the ſea, that is, in the pariſhes of Callender and Muthill in Perthſhire. It is on this ridge that

Caſtle

Caſtle Drummond is built, at a place formerly called Concraig. From thence it paſſes ſouth-weſtward by Callender and the port of Menteith, and onward ſtill through Loch-lomond. North-eaſtward it paſſes through the whole extent of the great ſtrath, ſometimes giving names to villages and hamlets, as the CRAIG in the pariſh of Maderty, towards the German Ocean. Where it croſſes the Tay it produces a fall in the river, known by the name of the Linn of Campſey. The form in which it appears above ground is curvilineal, or in familiar language, that of a Hog's back. It has the appearance of what Colliers, in a coal country, call Hitch-hitch; which either throws the ſtrata of coals up or down, and ſo as that they are never to be found in the ſame horizontal parallel on the one ſide as on the other, but very often thrown below the level, and loſt. Its perpendicular ſide, which is often as ſmooth as if it had been hewn by a chiſſel, ſometimes fronts the ſouth, as at Caſtle Drummond, and, about a mile eaſt from that place, at Benybeg; and ſometimes to the north, as at a village belonging to the Laird of Dollerie, in the pariſh of Maderty. Where it is interrupted, as it ſometimes is, and one end of the line thrown a little out of the direction to the ſouth, and another to the north, theſe ends are often ſo ſhaped that if they were re-united, they would correſpond or tally with one another. This chain of rocks is called, by the country people, one of the Girds of the Earth.

Though

Though the ſteepeſt fronts of the hills and mountains of Scotland, as already obſerved, face for the moſt part the weſt, yet there are exceptions, as in the caſe of the Cheviots above-mentioned. Many other inſtances we have of exception, as Craigroſſie, the northern promontory of the Ochills, and the rock of Newburghin in Fife, which inſtead of facing the ſouth-weſt, look towards the north-eaſt. In general, the moſt rocky and precipitous ſides of hills are found oppoſite to the uſual courſe of the winds and waves: but the operation of eddies in both is various and hard to be traced.

I have ſubjoined in an Appendix, a table ſhewing the altitude of the principal mountains and hills in Britain above the ſea, and their relative height to the higheſt mountains in the world

It is not my deſign to enter into the botanical any more than the mineral hiſtory of Scotland. However, as I have endeavoured to trace the great outlines of inanimated nature in this highly varied country; ſo I ſhall here alſo take occaſion to obſerve, that the indigenous plants of Scotland are chiefly, moſs, heath, fern; a ſpecies of liquorice called currymaul; berry-bearing ſhrubs, as the juniper, cranberry, raſberry, ſtrawberry, &c. the black-thorn, the oak, the hazel, the aller or arne, the elder, and above all the birch and the fir. Moſs is found in every part of Scotland,

and

and at all heights in the atmoſphere; heath, fern, and currymauls, not ſo far above the level of the ſea; the ſhrubs bearing berries, on plains and the lower part of mountains; the black-thorn, the oak, the hazel and the elder, in the vallies, and on the inferior parts of mountains, and the lower hills: the aller or arne, which is alſo found in marſhy places in the vallies, thrives at a greater height than theſe in the atmoſphere: the fir, which ſpreads itſelf, when unoppoſed, and domineers, as it were, over all the ſhrubs and trees of the plain, and which alſo triumphs over hills and the ſides of lofty mountains, does not however, poſſeſs ſo wide a domain as the fragrant birch, which is found in thoſe northerly latitudes, and elevated regions in the atmoſphere, where almoſt all vegetation ſeems to ſicken and die, and to leave the undiſputed ſoil to be occupied by the humble and untrodden moſs. Birch enjoys, as has been already obſerved, a ſolitary reign on the weſtern and bleak ſhores of Roſs-ſhire: birch alſo predominates in Sutherland and Caithneſs: birch is the prevailing tree in the frozen regions of Siberia, and prevails over the whole vegetable kingdom in Iceland: ſome ſprigs of birch are even diſcovered in Greenland. The ſame congeniality between certain climates and certain natural productions which is viſible in Scotland, is alſo illuſtrated in a very particular manner, by the gradations from one kind of plants to another, as the curious traveller aſcends Mount Ætna. Here, at a certain elevation in the atmoſphere,

atmoſphere, immediately above the region of the mountain which produces grain and fruit trees, the cheſnuts, which predominate among theſe, and thrive a little higher upon the mountain than the reſt, begin to diſappear, and to give place to oaks, which are ſoon ſucceeded by the fir, as the fir is by the birch. In like manner, in travelling acroſs the four mountains, a lofty range, where one mountain is piled above another, between the Gulph of Ormuz and Shirauz, the capital of Phariſtan, or Pruſſia Proper, we find the valley or ſhelve, between the third and the higheſt mountain, where the air is cool, covered with a ſpecies of oak; but the roots and the ſides of the fourth mountain, where it is cold and piercing, covered with birch.

Perhaps, having mentioned Mount Ætna, I ſhall not be thought wholly to digreſs from my preſent ſubject, if I take occaſion to obſerve, that the remains of the antient foreſt of enormous cheſnuts, found here, proves the prodigious fecundity of volcanic aſhes. Thoſe coloſſal trees, growing almoſt on the naked lava, entwine their roots around thoſe immoveable blocks, and endure, like them, from generation to generation. The famous Seven Brothers, a ſingle cheſnut tree, ſeventy ſix paces in circumference, is, next to the Banian tree of India, the moſt ſtupendous effort of vegetable nature. Of this tree, which is entirely open, and worn away at the heart, nothing remains but the ſap and rind, which are divided into ſeven mangled

ſtocks

ſtocks. In Scotland, as well as in Sweden and Norway, we every where ſee fir trees faſtening themſelves on the naked rocks, which are evidently impregnated with ſome principle favourable to the growth of that noble plant. At the depth of 12 and even 18 feet, we find the remains of trees of much larger ſize than any now growing in Scotland. At the little Kirk of Kilmalie, oppoſite to Fort William, in Lochaber, there was a ſycamore tree which was thought worthy of the pencil of Mr. Sandby: but unfortunately the ſketch was loſt, and the tree itſelf burnt down by the ſoldiers in 1746. It was 40 feet in circumference at the firſt branch, and about 60 feet in girth above ground. If the Caledonian and Norwegian rocks yet retain ſomewhat of the fructifying virtue of volcanic lava, they probably retained more and more of that quality in the periods nearer and nearer to that of its eruption. Strabo ſays, that the lava of Ætna was covered with vines in the ſhort ſpace of three years. That there is in rock and ſtone ſomething conducive to vegetation, is a fact which has been proved by repeated experiments and obſervations in America as well as Europe.

The weſt coaſt of Scotland has the appearance of a groupe of Iſlands, recently detached, or ſoon to be joined to the main land. To ſome they wear the appearance of wrecks, or ruins: but to the Theoriſt, who is of opinion that the earth is gaining on the ocean, they ſeem to be new territories, but lately formed, and which haſten to link and

conſolidate themſelves into one various and extenſive domain. Under which of thoſe aſpects, they are in truth, to be viewed, I cannot certainly affirm. The general opinion is, that the ſea is gaining in many places on the eaſt coaſt of Scotland, and receding from the weſt. The complexity of currents, and counter-currents, renders it difficult to account for the apparent capriciouſneſs of the ocean, which however, is controlled by the ſame power that regulates thoſe periodical currents in the atmoſphere, known by the name of Trade-Winds and Monſoons. The inequalities in the ſurface of the earth, counteract in manifold inſtances, that regularity which reſults, in both air and ocean, from the influence of the heavenly bodies.

On the eaſt ſide of Scotland, the land advances boldly, and alternately retires far inward from the ocean, forming, on the whole, three ſalient, and two great *rentrant*, or returning angles. Dungſbay's Head in Caithneſs, Buchanneſs in Aberdeen-ſhire, and St. Abb's Head in Berwick-ſhire, form the *apices* of the ſalient, and the Murray Frith, and the Frith of Forth, thoſe of the *returning* angles. Taking things on this ſimple and great ſcale, I have conſidered the *Dornoch* as ſunk in the general view of the Murray Frith, and the Frith, of Tay, in that of the ſpacious Frith of Forth. But, on a cloſer view, we find two great tongues of land ſimilar, and ſimilarly ſituated: the one extended between the Dornoch and Murray Friths, and terminating in a point at Tarbat-Neſs; the other encloſed between the

Eſtuaries

Eſtuaries of the Forth and the Tay, and, ſtretching out to the point of Fife-neſs, near Craill, in Fife-ſhire. On a narrower inſpection ſtill, as the coaſt between the Forth and the Tay is indented by the Bay of St. Andrews, which receives the water of Eden, ſo is the land between the Dornoch and the Murray Friths interſected by the Bay of Cromarty. Farther ſtill, as theſe territories bear a ſtriking reſemblance to each other in ſhape and ſituation, ſo they were antiently called by the ſame name of *Roſs*, which ſignifies a promontory. The names of places in Scotland, as in other very antient and unconquered kingdoms, very juſtly, as well as generally, expreſs their ſituation, or the appearance they make to the eye.

The whole courſe of civil ſociety may be divided into four periods: 1ſt. That of hunting and fiſhing, and concomitant war with neighbouring tribes; 2d. That of paſturage; 3d. That of agriculture; 4th. That of commerce and the arts, both mechanical and liberal. It is in the firſt of theſe ſtages that men are qualified to give names to regions, diſtricts, and towns, deſcriptive of their nature. Who but a hunter and warrior, accuſtomed to traverſe valley beyond valley, and mountain beyond mountain, could have diſcovered that the vaſt plain that interſects Scotland had nothing equal to it in all the land; and that it might, therefore, by way of eminence, be fitly denominated Strathmore? Or that Fife and Roſs-ſhire jutted into the ocean? The geographical knowledge, as well as the na-

tural ſagacity and quick obſervation of man in the firſt period of civil ſociety, is exemplified in a ſtriking manner by what we know of the natives, commonly called the Indian Tribes of America.

About the year 1770, an Indian Chief of the Acanſa nation, on the weſt ſide of the great river Miſſiſſippi, arrived at Penſacola, in company with Pia-Mataha, the great Chief of the Chic-Saws, after travelling about 800 miles. The object of the Acanſa, in this long journey, was, to obtain a free trade from the Engliſh to his nation, which, as it was ſituated upon the Spaniſh ſide of the Miſſiſſippi, was civilly declined. This interview, by the way, was one of the hundred complaints enumerated in the Spaniſh Manifeſto of 1779, as a pretext for declaring war againſt Great-Britain.

A Gentleman, who was then Surgeon-General to his Majeſty's forces in Weſt Florida, embraced the opportunity, which the preſence of thoſe two Chiefs afforded him, of enquiring into a ſubject which had long excited his curioſity, and employed his reſearches: the manners of nations in the ſtate of hunters, or, as we very unjuſtly term them, ſavages. He found that the Acanſa Chief was perfectly acquainted with the circumſtances of all the Indian tribes, or nations, on the weſt-ſide of the Miſſiſſippi, from the river Rouſe to the great river Miſſouri; a ſpace of about three hundred leagues along the courſe of the river, and, from ſouth to north, above ſeven degrees of latitude.

In

In his war parties or hunting excurſions, he had often gone as far as the mountains which divided Louiſiana from New-Mexico, and had ſeen very extenſive tracts of land, which, even in ſpots that were apparently fertile, had never produced a tree of any kind. In other parts it was ſo full of rocks and ſtones, that not a blade of graſs could grow.

This Chief was well acquainted with the numbers and ſtrength of all the tribes juſt mentioned, the natives with whom they were allied, and thoſe with whom they were at variance. His opinion of the Spaniſh nation was, that they were proud and tyrannical and great monopolizers; of the French, that they were political and cunning; of the Engliſh, with whom he ſtudied, by all means, to cultivate an acquaintance, that though commercial ſtill more than the other two, they were more open in their diſpoſitions and honeſt in their dealings. As far as the articles of ſkins and furs on their part; and blankets or ſtrouds, powder and ball, guns, hardware, &c. on the part of the Europeans; he could form as juſt an eſtimate as any merchant in London. Though he could neither write nor read, on being preſented with a ſheet of paper, and a black lead pencil, he delineated the Miſſiſſippi in its winding courſes, as far as he knew, with all the nations of Indians upon his ſide of the river. But, when he had almoſt finiſhed it, he perceived a ſmall miſtake, and, being furniſhed with another

ther ſheet, without looking at the former, he made another and more correct copy; the ſimilarity of which to the former was very ſtriking.

To give a juſt idea of the endowments of this natural as well as political obſerver; this politician, patriot, and hero, who muſt have ſurprized even Rouſſeau himſelf, if he had ever ſeen him, would exceed our bounds. I ſhall only mention one obſervation of his upon a phenomenon well known to thoſe who have ever ſeen the ſea, but which the Acanſa Chief never had till he came to Penſacola.

He arrived at this place in the evening; and, on going to bathe and waſh himſelf in the bay, according to the cuſtom of his country, after the fatigues of his journey, he perceived that the water, on being agitated, produced the appearance of light or fire, and immediately ſaid, "This "muſt be part of the waters of the Great Lake: for though "I have in my own country, ſeen lakes of greater extent "than this, yet I never till now have ſeen any water that "contained fire in it."

Next morning he was conducted to a height or promontory, from whence he had a view of the Gulph of Mexico. A ſpectacle ſo grand and ſo new, filled and overwhelmed the mind of the noble Savage with emotions of aſtoniſhment and admiration: which he ſtrove to expreſs by

by whatever aid it was in his power to borrow from articulate ſound, or mute geſticulation. He folded his arms, and gazing ſtill on the magnificent object before him, gave vent in a pathetic ſoliloquy, to the ſentiments which it excited in his breaſt. He frequently exclaimed, that he had now ſeen more than his whole nation or any of the neighbouring tribes had ever beheld. Nor was it more, perhaps, than a ſmall portion of the great lake that he had yet ſeen; which might be as much ſuperior to all that his eye could take in of the Gulph of Mexico, as the Gulph of Mexico was to the bay of Penſacola!

The Geographical knowledge of Pia-Mataha, the Chic-Saw Chief, extended ſtill farther. He was perfectly well acquainted with the country from the weſt of Carolina on the Atlantic Ocean, weſtward to the river Miſſiſſipi; and from the Gulph of Mexico northward to the Ohio. The word of Pia-Mataha was not a law to the Chic-Saws only: a much more numerous nation were alſo guided, in a great meaſure, by his opinions. He had often received letters from the Governors of Virginia, Carolina, and Georgia, and the Floridas, and from the Superintendants of Indian affairs. Theſe Letters he took care to keep in perfectly goood order, and, at times would procure a perſon capable of reading and interpreting them, at ſome public meeting of the Chiefs. But he always introduced them with a preamble by himſelf, and gave the ſubſtance of

of each before he permitted the letters to be read. His extraordinary memory enabled him not only to do this, but even to correct the interpreter, if he ſhould make any conſiderable miſtake. The other Indian Chiefs ſuſpected that he was capable of reading the letters himſelf, and ſuppoſed that he was as much ſuperior to thoſe interpreters, though Europeans, as he was to themſelves. At one time, as he returned home to his own nation from Penſacola, there was an eclipſe of the ſun, the approach of which he viewed with the greateſt attention, and when it came to be total, as it really happened in the place where he then was, he exclaimed with great emotion, "It is dead—it is gone, and "the days are paſt!" But, in a few moments, when the light began to re-appear, he ſeemed to be as agreeably ſurpriſed as we ſhould be, if, from ſome ſingular ſign we ſhould ſuppoſe this world to be at an end, and preſently afterwards ſhould diſcover that our conjecture was not well-founded.

Nothing ſurprized this Chief more than electricity. This indeed greatly ſurprizes moſt of the Indians; who have, naturally, a curious, and inquiſitive turn of mind. The ſagacity of Pia-Mataha was conſpicuous on many other occaſions. He once ſaw ſome Chineſe figures, painted, which ſeemed to thoſe that were with him, very much to attract his attention. Being therefore aſked what he thought of thoſe people, he ſaid, that it was a nation of

Indians

Indians whom he had never ſeen. Upon being told that they were not Indians, but Chineſe, who lived as far to the eaſt of England, as the Chicaſaw nation was to the weſt, Pia-Mataha anſwered, that by whatever name they might be called, and by whatever diſtance ſeparated, they ſurely were Indians, though in all his travels, he had never ſeen them.

In the country of the Illianois, a Chief, I think of the Caſcaſkias, whoſe name I do not remember, conceived the ſublime idea of uniting all the Indian nations and tribes into one grand alliance offenſive and defenſive. If this had been realized, Dr. Franklin's confederation of the Thirteen States would have cut but a poor figure on the American Continent, and the natural man would have outdone the philoſopher.

If men had been always tied down to the ſoil, in the condition of huſbandmen, labourers, manufacturers, and ſhop-keepers, the natural diviſions of the country would not have been marked by proper names. Through the want of theſe the greateſt confuſion would have reigned in civil affairs, and the moſt formidable impediments have been oppoſed to the progreſs of knowledge. We are therefore infinitely obliged to our rude anceſtors: for we may apply to civil and to natural hiſtory, with peculiar propriety, the logical maxim, *qui bene dividit bene docet.* As

the judicious improver of uncultivated land begins his labours with laying it out into different compartments, ſo the civil and the natural hiſtorian is obliged to ſeparate the great maſs of his narration and deſcription into ſeparate portions. If certain boundaries of ſpace and time were not marked with preciſion, it is difficult to conceive how ſcience could be advanced even in the ſmalleſt degree. But now, to bring back, and apply this digreſſion on DIVISION, to the natural hiſtory of Scotland, or *mutatis mutandis*, to that of any other kingdom.

Scotland is divided into counties, or provinces, and theſe ſub-divided into pariſhes as in other kingdoms of Europe. But what is peculiar to Scotland, at leaſt to the Preſbyterian countries, is that pariſhes themſelves are ſub-divided into particular quarters, appropriated to the charge of particular Elders, office-bearers in the church already deſcribed. This fixed diviſion of the whole ſoil of the kingdom might be made ſubſervient to the ſtudy of natural hiſtory, as thereby different lots might be parcelled out to different labourers in the vineyard, repetitions avoided, the gradations marked by which the mineral ſtrata and various kinds of earths are exchanged, and run into one another; the plants that the different ſoils are moſt fitted to produce; and the animals that thrive beſt on the different kinds of plants. The proprietors of the different villages and farms that compoſe the different quarters of the dif-

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ferent pariſhes would have a natural intereſt and pride in agreeing to any regulations that might be eſtabliſhed in the county and pariſh, for the gradual exploration of the ſoil, and vegetable and animal kingdoms, within their reſpective diſtricts. The deſcription of one field, or parcel of land, would thus be linked to that of another in the ſame farm; and that of farm to farm; of parochial diſtrict to parochial diſtrict; of pariſh to pariſh; of county to county; and why may we not add, of kingdom to kingdom?

There have not been wanting different individuals, public ſpirited indeed, but perhaps of too ſanguine diſpoſitions, who, ſtruck with the ſubſerviency of parochial diſtinction to the advancement of both civil and natural hiſtory, have addreſſed letters to the different pariſhes in Scotland, and particularly the clergy, inviting them to a correſpondence on whatever might appear moſt curious and intereſting in their reſpective diviſions. Theſe gentlemen do not reflect that there is no individual, however diſtinguiſhed by genius, rank or fortune, or even by a happy or rare union of all theſe advantages, who can poſſibly be conſidered by a whole nation, as a fit centre of ſuch general co-operation.

A permanent project, an experiment to be continued for ages, an exploration that embraces ſo wide a ſpace and ſo many prrticulars within the circle, ſhould be placed under the management of a permament body, and the counte-

nance and protection, as well as the controul of the nation.

If we did not know from experience how prone literary ſocieties are to become the heads of faction; and how academicians, with a propoſterous vanity that reflects ſatire and diſgrace on themſelves, are ſometimes more ambitious of the fellow-ſhip of *titled* than of *learned* men; it would naturally occur, that the adminiſtration of ſuch a national academy, ſuch a maſs of continued experiment and obſervation as is propoſed, could not be placed in better hands than in thoſe of the Royal Society either of London, or Edinburgh, or perhaps a Select Committee appointed by both. That faction might be ſuppreſſed, the falſe vanity of academecians controuled, ſuch honours and rewards as might be held forth to merit fairly adjudged, and juſtice in all points done to all, I would widen the baſis of the literary republic, by forming a General Council to be choſen annually by Delegates from the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the Univerſities, the Royal Burghs, the Counties, and above all the General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland, on the individual exertion of whoſe members, the ſucceſs of the ſcheme in queſtion would chiefly depend.

It is well known, that it became a part of the clerical function to obſerve and record both natural phenomena and civil events in antient Egypt. Why ſhould not we, as well as Moſes, take a hint from the wiſdom of the Egyptians?

tians? Why might not the miniſter mark and keep a record of all the diſcoveries in the different quarters of the pariſh? Why, at the ſame time that he keeps a ſteady eye on the new, might he not in the courſe of his pilgrimage, lend an occaſional hand in exploring the old earth? Revealed, as well as well as natural religion, proves a connection between piety and natural ſcience.

As the proprietors of land could not fail to be intereſted in the thorough exploration of their eſtates, they would of courſe be diſpoſed to invite ſuch as are capable of exploring them, to ſettle thereon by all poſſible encouragement; and a proficiency in chymiſtry and natural hiſtory would be the beſt recommendation to the patronage of the great, both eccleſiaſtical and civil: which would operate as a powerful ſtimulant to the ſtudy of thoſe important branches of knowledge in the Univerſities, and other ſeminaries. Charles II. preſſed by the ſolicitations of the Court of France and the See of Rome, to become a convert to the Catholic Religion, conſented that a theologian ſhould be ſent to him, for the purpoſe of inſtructing him in its myſteries, from Paris: but, he deſired, at the ſame time, that this theologian might be a good chymiſt. The patrons of church livings, were the cuſtom eſtabliſhed of carrying on by degrees the natural hiſtory of all the pariſhes in the kingdom, would naturally, like King Charles, deſire that his ſpiritual paſtor might be a good chymiſt, a good mineralogiſt, and a good botaniſt.

botaniſt. I am aware, that every project, in proportion to it scomplexity, is in danger of being treated as viſionary, and has to encounter the prejudices of a claſs of men, who affect the character of prudence, but know not how to diſtinguiſh caution from deſpair, or a uſeful problem from a vain chimera. The propoſition here laid down, that ſuch an aſſociation might be formed among the different pariſhes of Scotland, under the direction of a Council choſen annually by deputies, repreſenting the moſt reſpectable part of ſociety in that kingdom, as might advance the dominion of natural knowledge, and thereby promote human happineſs with unheard of, and even incredible rapidity, is as true as any of thoſe incontrovertible truths in Mathematics, that depend on *Hypotheſes* and *Lemmmas:* for grant that landholders, and even renters, are intereſted from a love of gain, from curioſity, from vanity and emulation, in inveſtigating and diſplaying the mineral ſtrata, and indigenous plants of their eſtates and farms; that the diſcoveries made, from time to time, by the proprietors and tenants of the eſtates and farms, or thoſe acting under their influence, in the reſpective quarters of the pariſh, might be faithfully regiſtered by the pariſh miniſter; and that ſuch arrangements might be made as to render it the intereſt of miniſters and others to labour in this vineyard: what is here contended for is eſtabliſhed; that is, the poſſibility of the ſcheme is eſtabliſhed. If theſe arrangements are not in fact made, if landlords and tenants, and miniſters, and

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candidates for eccleſiaſtical and other preferment, are not excited to enter on the glorious and very practicable career to which I allude, my propoſition will be leſs intereſting indeed, but not the leſs true. It will ſtill ſubſiſt on the hypothetical baſe on which it is founded. It will ſtill be found within the ſphere of truth, which is not confined to individual exiſtence, or what actually falls under our obſervation, but which expatiates freely wherever the power of reaſon can find or invent a harmonious aſſociation and coaleſcence of ideas.

If men were not wanting to themſelves, but would deſpiſe thoſe vain phantoms which riſe up in indolent minds from confuſion of ideas, they would ſoon be convinced, that they neither want power nor opportunity to accompliſh great deſigns, and to correct, in a conſiderable degree, the unjuſt caprices of accident and fortune. It is in times the moſt enlightened that we are moſt authorized to hold this language: when the eagle eye of reaſon, taught to ſoar above the miſt of vulgar prejudices, can diſtinguiſh the ſummit of mountains from the clouds, what is only difficult from what is wholly impoſſible. What has been effected, before our eyes, by the National Aſſembly of France, through ſo many combinations, ought to raiſe our confidence in the human powers. Animated by the erection of ſo glorious, though ſo complicated a fabric, and that in

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the midſt of a thouſand alarms, we ought not to deſpair of whatever is not impoſſible.

The idea that I have here ventured to throw out, of a regular plan for a thorough, though leiſurely and gradual inveſtigation of the Natural Hiſtory of this country, will not perhaps be conſidered as viſionary and uſeleſs, when it is conſidered that the world is governed by opinion, and that, when opinions are formed, conjectures ariſe, ſometime or other, in the varying aſpect of human affairs, for carrying them into execution. And may it not be ſuppoſed that, at an æra when a general ardour prevails in the cultivation of the arts and ſciences: when a private gentleman is found who inſtitutes a profeſſorſhip for the promotion of agriculture: and a Prince fills the throne, who has, during the whole courſe of his reign, extended ſuch noble encouragement to Natural Hiſtory and Science, and the application of theſe to purpoſes beneficial to the Britiſh Empire, and to the world—may it not be hoped, that in ſuch auſpicious times as the preſent, the outlines propoſed for the advancement of the Natural Hiſtory of North-Britain, will be honoured in different quarters with ſerious conſideration? If that plan ſhould be executed with ſucceſs in Scotland, it might eaſily be adopted, *mutatis mutandis*, in England.

On a general view of the natural face of Scotland, it muſt occur to any man who has been a witneſs of the aqueducts in

in other parts of the globe, how practicable it is, in that mountainous country to enrich a great portion of the land by means of water; and to form canals that might ſerve the double purpoſe of manuring the land, and of water carriage. The former of theſe improvements naturally leads to the latter. The farmer begins by leading the ſprings and rills from the ſides of the mountains towards his waſte, or, as they are called in Scotland, his out-field grounds, upon an uniform deſcent of a foot, or little more, to every hundred yards. By and by he unites ſeveral ſmall ſtreams into one, and finds that half of that fall, executed with judgment, will anſwer his purpoſe. Thus, the fall or deſcent of the drains and aqueducts being leſſened in a certain reciprocal ratio of the quantity of the running fluid, the attentive huſbandman will at laſt ſtumble, as it were, on the idea of water-carriage, without having ever ſuſpected that his little, and partial endeavours, when united with others of the ſame kind, would produce ſo grand an effect. When people are familiarized to the practice of conducting water for agricultural purpoſes, and when, on finding the great utility of that element as a manure, extenſive diſtricts with united efforts draw large bodies of water, for ſeveral miles, out of large rivers, it will ſoon occur to them, that thoſe large branches, ſo taken off, might as well carry lime, marle, wood, or other materials, as to be only the vehicles of water ſediment. Such agricultural operations, it may be farther obſerved, would point out the eaſieſt modes of

carrying on navigations at the public expence. For by leading canals around the profiles of hills, the ſkillful engineer might, ſometimes, avoid the elaborate and expenſive adjuncts of locks and aqueduct bridges.

Suppoſe the villages A and C to be about 15 or 16 miles diſtant from the great town D, ſituated on the ſea coaſt, and that the villages have corn, hay, lumber, lime, and ſuch like, to ſend to town, while they receive the town goods in return; ſuppoſe alſo, that the two rivers A E and F C, though carried on near the villages by a fall of 13, 14, or 15 feet per mile, to abate in their deſcent, and to proceed towards their mouths in ſuch a manner, that the whole amount of the fall between the villages and the town comes to be 150 feet; then, looking in figure 2d, at the profiles of the country, I find (b) belonging to the mountain B, overhanging the great town D, to be 150 feet above the level of the ocean. I therefore eſtabliſh a large baſon on that ground, fit for the reception of numerous batteaux, rafts, &c. and ſo contrived, that when it is ſeven or eight feet deep, the water in the branches A B and C B, taken off from the main river, will ſtand on a level back to the villages A and C, and will facilitate the tranſportation of all kinds of goods up the country, and towards the gorges of the mountains. On the other hand, when the vaſt reſervoir is opened at G, in order to clean the bar at F, the heavy goods from the villages will come down almoſt of

their

Fig. 1.

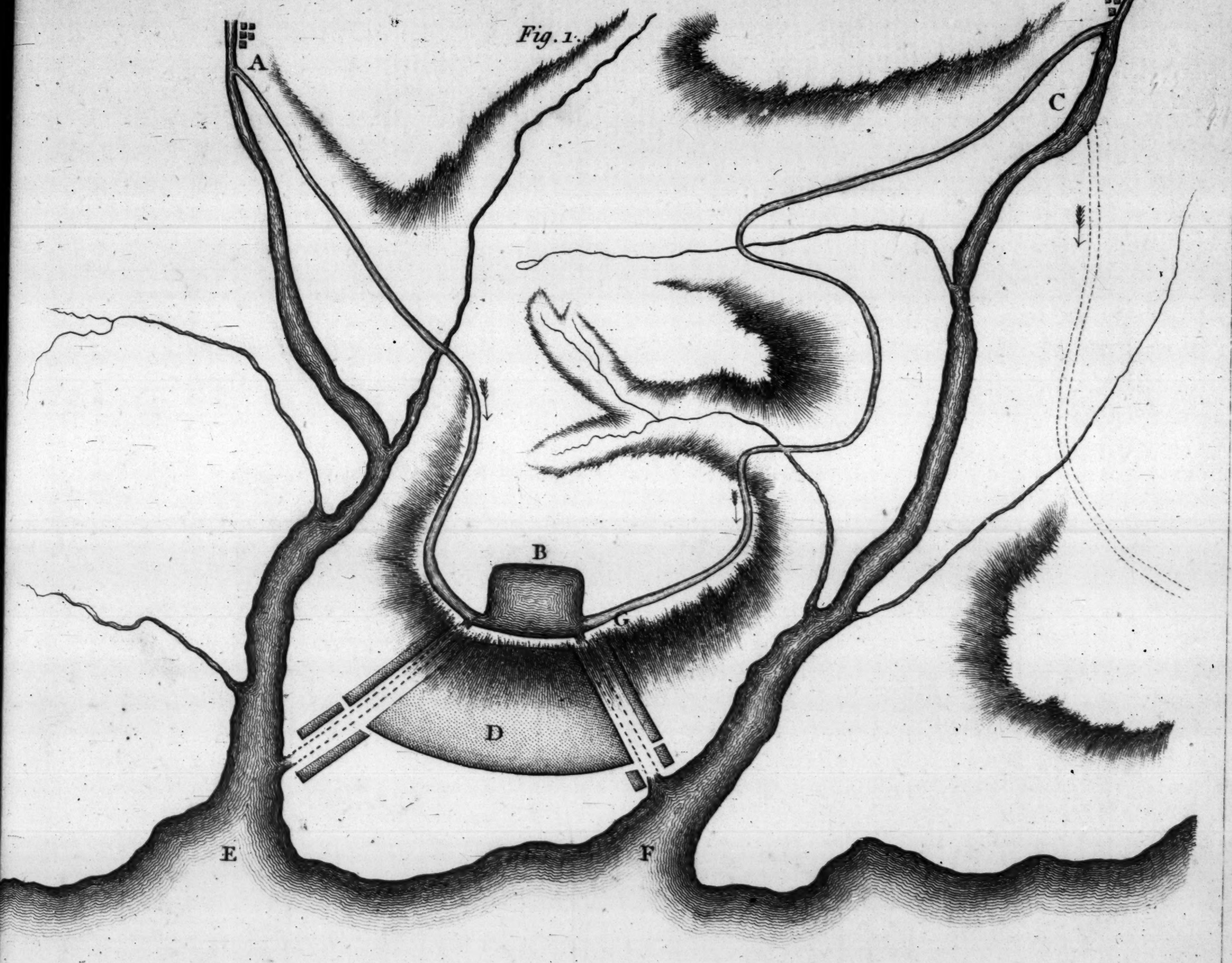
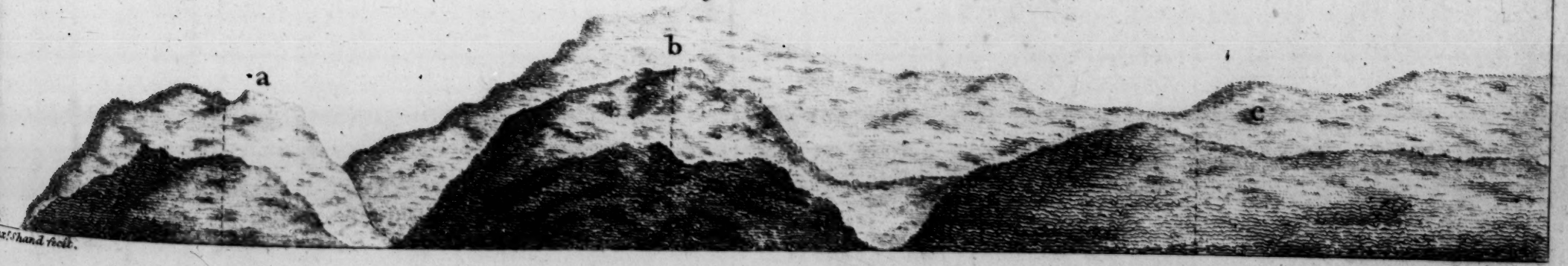


Fig. 2.



Profile between the Rivers.

their own accord by the motion, by that means communicated to the ſtream. For, when it is low water in the reſervoir, the winding aqueducts A B and C B will have about four inches of fall per mile. I don't know whether four inches of fall to one mile would be too much, or too little: but if the farmers, in conjunction, could be once induced to uſe the ſtreams of rivers for the melioration of land, they would ſoon acquire, by this practice, the eaſieſt and beſt methods of conducting water. Many other things would be learned. And the power of mills, increaſed by immenſe falls of water, inſtead of forming an objection againſt ſuch deſigns, would plead with great force, in their favour. What mechanical movements might not be drawn from the out-let ſtream G F, at the ſame time that the city D would thereby be richly ſupplied with every convenience and advantage? The people of Glaſgow, the moſt enlightened and enterprizing in North Britain, have proceeded on the principle here recommended in the Monkland Canal, and the junction of the great Carron Navigation with the higher grounds of that flouriſhing city.

I would beg leave to recommend to all Geographers, Topographers, and Land-ſurveyors, never to fail in adding to their drawings ſome of the moſt ſtriking profiles and ſections; which would not only make a ſtronger impreſſion of the featuresof a country on the minds of ſtrangers, but would likewiſe ſerve as ornaments to fill up the vacant parts of their

maps

maps or plans. How great an improvement would it be in Geography! And how uſeful to the Naturaliſt, and the Engineer, to caſt his eye on a map, and at one view, ſee the courſe of lines running level acroſs the brows of hills, and through vallies, forming a junction of all the great rivers and ſmall brooks! Suppoſe, for example, that an ingenious ſurveyor ſhould draw a map of Scotland, and after having made, or procured proper obſervations, ſhould mark on that map the line which the ſea coaſt would form, if it ſhould riſe 160 feet higher than at preſent; it would immediately appear that ſuch an imaginary coaſt would be a continuation of the Forth and Clyde Navigation, and every obſerver would wiſh it were poſſible to realize it. The channel of the greateſt improvement which a country can enjoy being thus pointed out, and rendered familiar to the eyes and imaginations of men, ſome patriots might ariſe, in different places and times, who, to certain extents, might here and there, as in the caſe of the croſs canal at Glaſgow, already mentioned, endeavour to give this imaginary ſea coaſt a real exiſtence.

Againſt the uſe of water as a vehicle for articles of commerce, there neither is, nor can be any objection: but, with regard to that ſubſtance as a manure for land, it has been found, in ſome inſtances, in the long run, inſtead of enriching, to impoveriſh a field. This unhappy effect, however, has as conſtantly been owing to the indiſcretion of

the

the farmer in over-cropping it. A ſimilar, and even a ſtronger objection might be brought to the uſe of lime, or marle. The Carſe of Gowrie, and the lower Strathern, partly compoſed of water ſediment, are known to be the richeſt in Scotland. And it is well known, that the firſt improvements on the Annan and the Nith aroſe from the uſe of ooze and ſleek from thoſe rivers. Nor is there any people, I have been informed, in the kingdom, who have been more remarkable, ever ſince the date of thoſe improvements, for invention in diſcovering natural manures, or more induſtrious in their application, than the farmers of Annandale and Nithiſdale.

FINIS.

APPENDIX.

Height of Hills above the Level of the Sea.

	Feet.	
Dunnion - -	1031	near Jedburgh.
Minto Hills - -	858	ditto
Rubers Law - -	1419	
Eilden Hills - -	1310	near Melroſe.
Carter Fell -	1602	Roxburgſhire, on the borders.
Wiſp - -	1830	near Moſspaul, to the weſt.
Cheviot - - -	2682	Northumberland.
Three Brethren - -	1978	Selkirkſhire.
Minch Moor - -	2280	ditto.
Blackhouſe Heights -	2370	ditto, bordering on Peibles.
Etterick Pen - -	2200	ditto, bordering on Dumfries.
Windleſtraw Law - -	2295	
Ben Lomond - -	3262	on the Eaſt-ſide Loch Lomond.
Kinnoull - - -	1179	near Perth.
Farragin - - -	2584	Perthſhire.
Ben Lawers - -	4015	ditto.
Benmore - -	3903	ditto.
Schiehallion - -	3564	ditto.
Benygloe - -	3724	ditto.
Benderig - -	3550	ditto.
Benchonzie - -	2922	ditto.
Benvoirloch - -	3300	near Loch Erne.
Benleddia - -	3009	Perthſhire.
Benclach - -	2420	ditto.
Arthur-Seat - -	814	Edinburgh.
Hartfell - -	2282	Dumfries.
Lead-Hills - -	1564	Lanarkſhire.
Tintock - -	1644	Lanark.
Paps of Jura - -	2476	
Bedenarum - -	3150	
Bennevis - -	4273	Argyleſhire.
Carnethy - -	1700	
Dunſinnan Hill - -	1040	near Perth.
Benduphigh - -	2156	Aberdeen.
Ben Wyvis, alias Ben Fouaisch -	4200	Roſs-ſhire.

Mountains of Great Britain, above the Level of the Sea.

	Feet.	
Whernſide, Yorkſhire -	5340	meaſured by Jefferys.
Ingleborough, ditto -	5286	ditto.
Pennygent, ditto -	5220	ditto.
Snowdon, Wales -	3568	Pennant.
Pendi Hill - -	3411	Waddington.
Croſs Fell, Cumberland	3390	Donald.
Nelwellyn, ditto -	3220	ditto.
Skiddaw, ditto -	3270	ditto.
Ben Lomond, Scotland	3240	Pennant.
Bennevis, ditto -	4350	ditto.
Benyvoir, ditto - -	4740	ditto.

According to theſe admeaſurements, the environs of Craven, in Yorkſhire, form the higheſt ground in South Britain, yet are conſiderably below the point of permanent ſnow, according to Sir Charles Suckburgh and others.

	Feet.	
Mount Blanc, in Switzerland	15245	
Pick of Teneriffe -	15396	Heberden.
Mount Cotopaxi, Quito	19929	Don Ulloa.

St. Kilda is a mountain, according to the Rev. Mr. Macaulay, a miſſionary to that Iſland from the Church of Scotland, of 5400 feet in height: the Teneriffe of Great Britain.

The Table-mountain, at the Cape of Good Hope, the baſe of which is granite, and which, to the very top, is alternately compoſed of horizontal ſtrata of granite and earth, riſes 3,600 feet above the level of the ſea.